

1034

OBSERVATIONS

ON

MARRIAGES,

BAPTISMS, and BURIALS,

AS PRESERVED IN

PAROCHIAL REGISTERS.

WITH

Sundry Specimens of the Entries of MARRIAGES, BAPTISMS,
&c. in Foreign Countries: Interspersed with divers Remarks
concerning proper Methods necessary to preserve a Remem-
brance of the several Branches of Families, &c.

By RALPH BIGLAND, Esq; Somerset Herald.

LONDON: 2 A Ag

Printed by W. RICHARDSON and S. CLARK, in Fleet-street;
And Sold by J. BODSLEY, in Pall-mall; T. PAYNE, at the Mews Gate,
Charing-Cross; Mess. OSBORNE and C^o, in Gray's Inn; J. RIVINGTON,
and Mess. FLETCHER and C^o, in St. Paul's Church-yard.

M DCC LXIV.

[Price Three Shillings.]

OBSERVATIONS

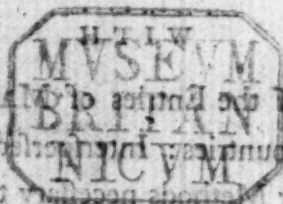
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AS PRESERVED IN

PAROCCHIAL REGISTERS.



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Sec. in Foreign Countries, printed with diverse Remarks
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Grave-yard; Mill, O'Connell and Co. in Great-street; J. Richardson,
and Mill, Fawcett and Co. in St. Paul's Church-yard.

M DCC LXXIV.

[Price Three Shillings.]



OF
PAROCHIAL REGISTERS, &c.
RESPECTING CHIEFLY
Their **UTILITY** and **CONSERVATION**,
For the Benefit of **POSTERITY**.

THE necessity of proper **RECORDS**, authenticated by public Parochial Registers, more particularly for ascertaining the **MARRIAGES**, **BIRTHS**, **BAPTISMS**, **DEATHS**, and **BURIALS**, of persons within their respective Parishes, is abundantly evident from a transient view of our ancient English History, which, for want of proper **NAMES**, and real **DATES**, and **FAMILY CONNECTIONS**, occasionally to be referred to, is oftentimes rendered perplexed and unintelligible, and sometimes altogether inconsistent even with its own Chronology.

B

This

This defect, so often heretofore complained of, was at last happily removed by that great politician Thomas Cromwell (afterwards Earl of Essex) when, being the king's vicar-general, he in the year 1538 ordered it to the clergy throughout England, that in their respective parishes a public REGISTER should be kept for the above purposes: and this order of Cromwell was continued in the several injunctions of King Edward VI. Queen Elizabeth, and King James I. particularly in that of Queen Elizabeth, every minister at institution was, among other things, to subscribe to this protestation; *I shall keep the Register Booke according to the queene's majesties injunction.*

It was chiefly from the want of such method of registering the Family SURNAMES, that the sons of one and the same common father were heretofore so diversely distinguished, as I shall hereafter shew.

“ NAMES, called in Latin NOMINA, quasi NOTAMINA (says the learned Camden) “ were first imposed for the distinction of persons, which we now call Christian Names, “ after, for difference of families, which we call SURNAMES, “ and have been especially respected, as whereon the glory “ and credit of men is grounded, and by which the same is “ conveyed to the knowledge of posterity, and that every “ person had in the beginning one only proper name, as “ Adam, Joseph, &c. &c.”

Camden

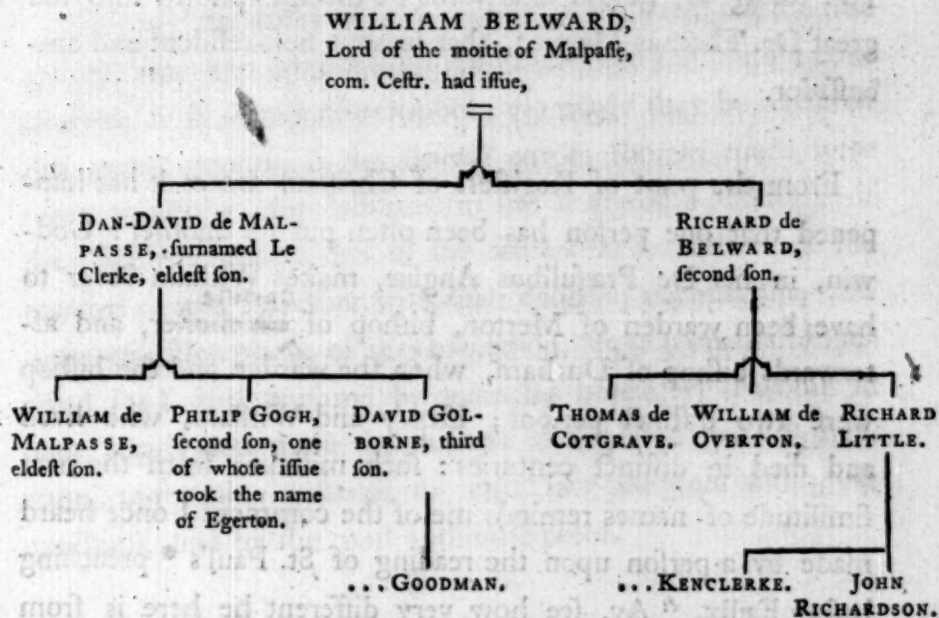
Camden observes, he never could find an hereditary surname in England before the conquest: the surnames in Doomsday Book were brought in by the Normans, who not long before had taken them; but they were mostly noted with a DE, as John de Babington, Walter de Hugget, Nicholas de Yate-man, &c. or Ricardus filius Roberti, &c. and that they were not settled among the common people till about the reign of King Edward II. Surnames, not from SIRE, but because super-added to the Christian Name. Places anciently gave names to persons, and not the contrary: William son of Roger Fitz Valerine, in the time of King Henry I. being born in the castle of Howard in Wales, did from thence assume the name of the place of his birth, and transmitted the same to his posterity. Edward of Caernarvon, so called from the place of his nativity; so Thomas of Brotherton, from the Village in Yorkshire wherein he was born; and John of Gaunt, from the city of Gaunt in Flanders, where he was born.

Herne supposes that Surnames were as old as King Jna, about 680, and instances in Ethelheard Umring, an Anglo-Saxon, and that the name descended to his posterity, like as Cumming or Cumin to this day, and blames Camden for supposing the contrary.

William ap Thomas, ap Gillim, ap Jenkin, when made Earl of Pembroke by King Edward IV. took the name of Herbert, because an ancestor of his in King Henry Ist's time was so called;

called; another from the name of the principal family manor, as Cavendish, son of Gernon. Nigell de Albini, by gift of King Henry I. possessing the lands of Robert de Mowbray, Earl of Northumberland (who was attainted) his posterity by the king's command took the surname and arms of Mowbray. The custom of taking names from towns and villages in England is a sufficient proof of the ancient descents of those families who are still inhabitants of the same places, as Lowther of Lowther, Standish of Standish, Errington of Errington, Stonor of Stonor, Kingscote of Kingscote, Towneley of Towneley, and many others too numerous to mention. John Horsley marrying the heiress of the ancient Delavals, his son James took the name and arms of his mother, and from whom the present Delavals of Seaton Delaval. Another from the office he sustained, as Usher the son of Nevil; Marshal, from being marshal of the king's palace; whence the Marshals Earls of Pembroke. De Mora, of the Moor; whence St. Maur, now Seymour; and Otho, alias Windfor, from being castellan of Windfor-castle: others took their names from forests, as Percy, so called from Percy-forest, in the province of Maine, and not (as Camden observes) from piercing the king of Scots through the eye; others from woods, as the family of Bosco or Bois, formerly of Fersfield in Norfolk, from the great wood that adjoined to their mansion; others from hills, dales, &c. from trees, as Coigners (Conyers) from the quince-tree; others from the oak, beech, elm, pine, vine, &c. others from rivers, as Tyne, Eden, Derwent, &c. others from fishes, as salmon, herring,

herring, whiting, haddock, trout, &c. and in respect of stature, learning, colour, and other causes. Camden gives us a remarkable instance of one family, which he took from an old roll that did belong to Sir William Brereton of Brereton, in Cheshire, Knt. as follows :



By this remarkable example of the alteration of names in early times it is, that at this day many families, who have neglected to keep up their pedigrees, are at a loss to account for the similar bearing of arms, whose names are so widely different, while yet they might all originally be descended from one and the same common ancestor. Little (for instance) would any one think to look for the family and arms of Bot-

teville in the present ^{Viscount} ~~Baron~~ Weymouth; and this only, because in the time of King Edward IV. John de Botteville resided at one of the inns of court, and from thence was named John of Th' Inne (Thynne); and as little would he suspect that that poor ^{deserted and exposed} infant at Newark upon Trent, commonly called *Tom among us*, should afterwards be metamorphosed into the great Dr. Thomas Magnuſ, that famous non-resident and ambassador.

From the want of Registers of Christian names it has happened that one person has been often put for another: Godwin, in his *De Præfulibus Angliæ*, makes William Sever to have been warden of Merton, bishop of ^{Carlisle} ~~Chichester~~, and afterwards bishop of Durham, when the warden and the bishop were two distinct persons; Henry and William, who lived and died in distinct centuries: such mistakes from the near similitude of names reminds me of the comment I once heard made by a person upon the reading of St. Paul's * preaching before Fælix, "Ay, see how very different he here is from what he once was, when he persecuted the prophet David!" hereby making in the Sacred History an anachronism of only about eleven hundred years.

That such arbitrary alterations and casual imposition of names is contrary to true policy, as what, by introducing con-

* Also called Saul.

fusion

fusion in families, may also eventually introduce confusion in the state, might be shewn, if necessary, in various instances; of which the parliament of Paris were so sensible, that they passed an act purposely against it, unless in cases where estates were left charged with such conditions.

Although the utility of REGISTERS, for ascertaining the true æra of time and perpetuating the exact history of family connexions, is so abundantly evident, yet might they be rendered still MORE USEFUL, if the several entries therein made were more particular; for instance, in the entry of a Marriage, if the Christian names, &c. of the fathers and mothers of the married couple; together with their degrees, occupations, and their respective places of real habitation, were particularly specified (as I shall presume by examples hereafter) it would at once clearly determine the descent of the issue by such marriage, and enable posterity to trace their pedigrees with great exactness, and by the most authentic proof.

It is much to be lamented, that during Cromwell's usurpation few Parochial Registers were kept with any tolerable regularity; yet I have now a Register before me of that time, which gives the several particulars as above required, in the following entry:

“ MEMORANDUM: That the intended marriage between
 “ Richard Mallett of Sutton Mallett, in the countie of Som-
 “ mersett,

“ merfett, gentleman (now an officer in the standing army)
 “ the sonne of Francis Mallett, some tyme of Sutton Mallett,
 “ in the countie of Sommerfett aforefaid, gentleman, deceased,
 “ and of Elizabeth his relict, now living in the parish and
 “ countie aforefaid, of the one part; and Susanna Newbery,
 “ spinster, daughter of Henry Newbery, esquier, and of Fran-
 “ ces his wife, both now living in the town of and
 “ countie of of the other part, was published on
 “ three several Lords days in the parish church; that is to
 “ say, on the 3d, 10th, 17th Decemb. no exception was made
 “ against the same.”

At this time particularly a person was elected by the pa-
 rishioners to the office of Register, as appears by the certificate
 of Robert Tichborne, alderman of London, taken from the
 Register that did formerly belong to the parish church of St.
 Peter, now united to St. Benet, Paul's Wharf, London, as fol-
 lows:

“ These are to certify whom it may concern, that on the
 “ 23d day of September 1653, before me Robert Tichborne,
 “ alderman, one of the justices of the peace within the city,
 “ came Thomas French of the Parish of Peeter's Poul's Wharfe,
 “ and produced a certificate under the hand of several of the
 “ inhabitants of the parish aforefaid of his election upon the
 “ 20th day of this instant September, by them to the place
 “ of Register for Marriages, Births, and Burials, in the parish
 “ afore-

"aforesaid, according to an act of parliament in that case
 "made and provided, desiring my approbation of the said
 "Thomas French to the place of registering aforesaid, as also
 "to swear him to the said Office, as is by the said act di-
 "rected; both which I have accordingly done. Witness my
 "hand the day and year abovesaid.

ROBERT TICHBORNE."

And under this entry,

"MARRIAGES

"Begone the 30 of September 1653.

"John Ridgway, bricklar, and Mary Chart, widdow, ac-
 "cording to a act of parliament baringe date the 24 August
 "1653 was three several times publised in the market-place
 "and afterwarde married by mee upon Tuesday the six of
 "December 1653.

THOMAS ATKIN."

Arundel, in Suffex, 1653.

"Thomas Ballard, Gent. Town-Register, sworn before
 "me John Albery, Mayor.

"MARRIAGES.

1653, "John Turner of Steyning, Suffex, and Sarah
 March 9. "Campion of Sounting, in the said county, spinster,
 "with consent of friends. Published in Steyning
 "and Sounting."

D

1654,

1654, ad: " John Blundell of Charlewood, in Surrey, mercer,
 Apr. 13. b " and Eleanor Mills of Pulburrrough, in Suffex, spin-
 nle as "ster, above 21 years of age, with consent of friends.
 -ib De 1654 Published in Charlewood and Pulburrrough."

From another Register.

" MEMORANDUM: That the marriage between John Hob-
 " son of in this county, gentleman, late the son of Ro-
 " bert Hobson, late of Oram, alias Utram, in the county of
 " Yorke, deceased, of the one part, and Lucy St. Paul of
 " Hammermith in the parish of Fulham, in the county of
 " Middlesex, widowe, of the other part, was solemnized be-
 " fore Colonel Harvey, one of the justices of the peace of this
 " common wealth, on the 28 day of June, according to a
 " late act of parliament concerning marriages, 1654."

Certificate of a marriage performed before Sir
 John Dethick, Knt. Alderman of London.

" LONDON, ff. According to an act of parliament, intituled,
 " An Act for Marriages, and the Registering thereof, and
 " also touching Births and Burials, I John Dethick, Knight,
 " one of the aldermen and justices of the peace for the said
 " citye, doe hereby certifie unto all whom it may concerne,
 " That Robert Constable of Andrewes Holborne, Gent. and
 " Bridget Exton of the parish of Benet's Paul's Wharfe, pro-
 " ducing two certificates under the hands of the respective
 " Registers

"Registers of the publication of their intention of marrying
 "each with other three several market-dayes, in Newgate-
 "market, in three several weekes, were married before me
 "the tenth day of November 1656, in the presence of John
 "Exton, doctor of the civil lawe, father of the said Bridget,
 "Everard Exton, Mary Exton, and John Clements of Lon-
 "don, Gent. and other witnesses. In testimony whereof I have
 "hereunto sett my hand and scale the 11 day of November
 "1656. *their letters certified Mr. Chancellor that the parties
 gave their consents to the said marriage* J^{no} DETHICK."

The Reverend and ingenious Richard Burn, L. L. D. vicar
 of Orton in Westmorland, in his Ecclesiastical Law, observes,
 "that an act of parliament was thought necessary, after
 "the Grand Rebellion, to intitle people who had been mar-
 "ried by justices of the peace to such legal advantages of
 "dower, thirds, and the like, as attended marriages duly so-
 "lemnized according to the rites of the church of England."

But the most remarkable entries I have seen, I shall beg-
 leave, for their singularity, to introduce from a copy formerly
 taken from the Parish Register of St. Botolph Aldgate, as
 follow:

"Michell Didyer, a stranger, born at Marseilles in Pro-
 "vence, a pilot under Mr. Candish in his voyage to the South
 "Endyes, and Jaquete Desheaz, a maiden, born in Jersey,
 "married 2d November 1588."

" Thomas Speller, a dumb person, by trade a smith, of
 " Hatfield Broadoake, in the county of Essex, and Sarah Earle,
 " daughter to one John Earle of Great Paringdon, in the
 " same county, yeoman, were married by licence granted by
 " Doctor Edwards, chancellor of the dioces of London, the
 " seaventh day of November, anno Dni 1618, which licence
 " aforesaid was granted at the request of Sir Francis Barring-
 " ton, Knight, and others of the place above-named, who by
 " their letters certified Mr. Chancellor that the parents of ei-
 " ther of them had given their consents to the said marriage,
 " and the said Thomas Speller the dumb parties willingness
 " to have the same performed, appeared by taking the book
 " of Common Prayer and his lycence in one hand and his
 " bride in the other, and coming to Mr. John Briggs, our
 " minister and preacher, and made the best signs he could to
 " shew that he was willing to be married, which was then
 " performed accordingle; and also the said lord chief justice
 " of the King's Bench, as Mr. Briggs was informed, was made
 " acquainted with the said marriage before it was solemnized,
 " and allowed it to be lawful.—This marriage is set down at
 " large, because we never had the like before."

" July 17, 1655. William Clark, son to John Clark, a sol-
 " dier, and Thomafine his wife, who herself went for a soul-
 " dier, and was billeted at the Three Hammers in East Smith-
 " field, about seven months, and after was delivered of this
 " child the 16th day of this July, and was baptized the 17th
 " in

“ in her lodging, being one Mr. Hubber's house: she had
 “ been a souldier by her own confession about five years, and
 “ was some time drummer to the company.”

Such particulars as these to identify the persons registered,
 are certainly proper; but the most remarkable for exactness I
 have seen for a baptism is the following:

“ Upon Monday, 26 October 1663, the only son of Sir
 “ JOHN CLOPTON of Clopton, in the county of Warwick,
 “ Knt. by his wife BARBARA, daughter and heire of Sir Ed-
 “ ward Walker, Knt. Garter principal king of arms, was bap-
 “ tized EDWARD, by Dr. John Earles, Bishop of Salisbury, in
 “ Garter's lodgings in the heralds office, situate in the parish
 “ of St. Benet Paul's Wharf, London.”

To these I shall add a remarkable passage from the parish
 register-book of Frocester, in the county of Gloucester, being
 a literal copy; viz.

“ Hoc anno 1574, die Laurentii Martyris, serenissima regina
 “ mea ELIZABETHA hoc meum oppidatum accessit & invisit
 “ in eoq; in ædibus Georgii Huntleii armigeri comiter, benigni-
 “ neq; & suma cum humanitate tractantis pernoctavit indeq;
 “ Barkleyum castellum concessit.

THO. TULLIO, vicario de Frocester.

GULIELMO PEGLER, }
 JOHAN. WILKINS, } Gardianis.”

E

By

By this circumstance we find that the most private villages sometimes obtain a remembrance from the birth or residence of some great personage, and that on the feast of St. Laurence the Martyr, in the year 1574, her majesty Queen ELIZABETH honoured the village of Frocester with her royal presence, and rested at the mansion-house of George Huntley, Esq; in her way to Berkeley-castle. Though this may not properly belong to entries in Parish Registers, yet such anecdotes or memorials occasionally introduced upon remarkable events, are not amiss, as they frequently tend to elucidate matters of greater moment.

The Funeral Certificates of the NOBILITY and GENTRY of this kingdom, as registered in the HERALDS OFFICE, together with their arms, quarterings, and supporters, elegantly depicted and duly regulated, are some of the finest records extant, and will be standing monuments of the caution and concern families had to transmit their connexions, feats in war, and honourable ensigns to posterity; but this good custom, formerly so well established to preserve their memories from oblivion, and answer the good ends intended, is now much neglected: however, as examples for imitation and the information of those who are unacquainted with this manner of registering of families, I shall here present the following, extracted from the originals:

FUNERAL

FUNERAL CERTIFICATES.

THOMAS CLINTON, Earle of LINCOLN.

The Right Honourable THOMAS Earle of Lincolne departed this mortall life the 15th daye of January 1618, at his house at Tattershal, in the countye of Lincolne, and was buried in the chauncell of the church of Tattershall aforesaide. He married ELIZABETH, daughter and coheire of Sir Henry Knevitt of Charlton, in the countye of Wilts, Knt. by whom he had yssue, Katherine, eldest daughter, who dyed without yssue; Elizabeth, 2d daughter; Frances, 3d daughter; Henry, eldest sonne, Thomas, 2d sonne, both dyed without yssue; Arabella, 4th daughter; Theophilus, sonne and heire, now Earle of Lincolne; Edward, 4th sonne; Lucy and Anne, both dyed without yssue; Charles, 5th sonne; Knevitt, 6th sonne; Susan, 7th daughter; Robert, 7th sonne, dyed without yssue; John, 8th sonne; Dorcas, 8th daughter; and Sarah, 9th and youngest daughter. This certificate was taken the last daye of April 1619, by Sampson Lennard, Blewe Mantle.

ELIZABETH HASTINGS, Countesse of WORCESTER.

The Right Honourable Lady ELIZABETH HASTINGS, late Countesse of Worcester, and daughter of the Right Honourable Francis Earle of Huntingdon, departed this mortall life at Worcester-house in the Strand, London, the 24th daye of August 1621, whose corpes was conveyed ymmediately following from thence to Ragland, in the countye of Monmouth, there to be interred. She was married to the Right Honourable EDWARD Earle of Worcester, Lord Privie Seale, by whom she had yssue, William Lord Herbert, eldest sonne, that dyed without yssue; Henry, nowe Lord Herbert, 2d sonne and heire; Sir Thomas Somersfett, 3d sonne, Knight of the Bath; Sir Charles Somersfett, 4th sonne, Knight of the Bath; Sir Edward Somersfett, 5th sonne, Knight of the Bath; and Christopher, youngest sonne; and five daughters; Elizabeth, eldest daughter, married

to

to Sir Henry Guildford of the countye of Kent, Knt. Katharine, 2d daughter, married to William Lord Peire; Anne, 3d daughter, married to Sir Edward Winter of Lidney, in the countye of Glocester, Knt. Frances, 4th daughter, to William Morgan of Lanternam, in the countye of Monmouth, Esq; Blanch, 5th daughter, married to Thomas, sonne and heire of the Lord Arundel of Wardour; and Katharine, youngest daughter, married to Thomas Lord Windfor; Henry Lord Herbert, and baron of parliament, married Anne, daughter and sole heire of John Lord Russell, sonne and heire of Francis Earle of Bedford, by whom he had yssue six sonnes and three daughters; Edward, the eldest sonne and heire; John, 2d sonne; Henry, 3d sonne; Thomas, 4th; Charles, 5th, and James, the 6th sonne; Anne, eldest daughter; Mary, and Elizabeth; Sir Thomas Somersset, 3d sonne, married the Countesse of Ormond, and hath yssue, Elizabeth, a daughter; Sir Charles Somersset, 4th sonne, married the daughter and heire of Sir William Powell of the countye of Monmouth, Knt. and hath yet no yssue; Sir Edward Somersset and Christopher, youngest sonnes, both dyed without yssue.

RICHARD SACKEVILLE, Earle of DORSET.

The Right Honourable RICHARD SACKEVILLE, Earle of Dorset, sonne of Robert Earle of Dorset, the sonne of Thomas first Earle of Dorset and Lord High Treasurer of England, departed this mortall life at Dorset-house by Fleetstreet, in London, on Easter-day the xxviiith of March 1624; whose body was honourably conveyed through the city of London on Tuesday night the 6th daye of April following unto Buckhurst in Suffex, and there buried in the parish church of Withiam with his ancestors, in a vault belonging only to that family. He married Lady ANNE, only daughter and heire of George Clifford, Earle of Cumberland; by whom he had yssue one sonne and two daughters; Thomas Sackeville Lord Buckherst, his sonne and heire, who dyed in his infancy; Lady Margaret, eldest daughter, borne 2 daye of July 1614, and Lady Isabella, borne 6 of October 1622, both living at the time of their father's death. The heire male unto all his honours is Sir Edward Sackeville, Knight, his 2 brother,

nowe

nowe Earle of Dorset and Lord Buckhurst. This certificate was taken by Sampson Lennard, Blew Mantle.

KATHARINE SOMERSET, Lady PETRE.

The Right Honourable Lady KATHARINE SOMERSET, 2d daughter of Edward Earle of Worcester, Lord Privy Seal, and wife unto the Right Honourable Lord WILLIAM PETRE, Baron Petre, of Writtle in Essex, departed this mortall life at Thornden (my Lord's house in Essex aforesaid) upon the last daye of October, anno Dom. 1624, and was buried in the church of Ingerstone, within a chapel erected for my Lord's family, and under a monument formerly prepared for my Lord and her. My Lord hath yssue by her, livinge at the tyme of her death, seven sonnes; viz. Robert Petre, now eldest and heire apparent, who hath wedded Mary, daughter of the Right Honourable Anthony Viscount Montacute, of Cowdrey in Suffex; William, 2d sonne; Edward, 3d; John, 4th; Thomas, 5th; Henry, 6th; George, 7th sonne; and three daughters; viz. Elizabeth, wife of William Sheldon, of Beoley in com. Worcester, Esquire; Mary, married to the Right Honourable John Lord Teynham, of Teynham in Kent; Katharine, married to John Carrell, sonne and heire apparent of Sir John Carrell, of Harting in Suffex; Knt. John Petre, first-born sonne, and a daughter, named Anne, dyed both young. This certificate was taken by John Philipot, alias Somersset, the first day of December 1624.

MARY NEVILLE, Barones LE DESPENCER.

The Right Honourable Lady MARY Barones LE DESPENCER, sole daughter and heire to the Right Honourable Sir Henry Neville, Knt. Baron of Abergavenny, and widow of Sir THOMAS FANE, of Badfell in Kent, Knt. departed this mortall life at her castle of Meerworth, in the county of Kent aforesaid, upon the xxviiith day of June 1626, and her funeral obsequies with great honour, and with all things requisite to her degree, were performed by her heire, being her sole executor, at the said castle and church of Meerworth, upon the 14 day of

July next following, her corps being interred in the chauncel there. She had yssue by the said Sir Thomas Fane as followeth; her eldest son and heire Francis Fane, made Knt. of the Bath at the coronation of King James, and after, in the 22d year of his majesty's raigne, in the life-tyme of his said mother, he was created Baron Bergherft and Earl of Westmorland, who by Mary his wife, sole daughter and heire of Sir Antony Mildmay of Apthorp, in the county of Northampton, Knt. and of Grace his wife, daughter and coheire of Sir Henry Sherington of Lacock, in com. Wilts, Knt. hath yssue as followeth; viz. six sonnes and six daughters; first, Mildmay Fane, made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of King Charles, then called Lord Burghersh, but since the decease of his said grandmother stiled Lord Le Despencer, newly married to Grace Thornihurst, daughter of Sir William Thornihurst, of Herne in Kent, Knt. and of Anne his wife, one of the two sisters and coheires of Lord Thomas Howard, Viscount Bindon; Lady Grace, eldest daughter, married to the Right Honourable James Earle Humes of Scotland; Lady Mary, 2d; Lady Elizabeth, 3d; Lady Rachel, 4th; Lady Frances, 5th; and Lady Katharine, 6th; Sir Francis, 2d sonne to the Earle of Westmorland, made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of King Charles; Antony, 3d sonne; George, 4th sonne; William, 5th sonne; Robert, 6th sonne; Sir George Fane of Burston in Kent, Knt. 2d sonne to the said defunct lady, married to his first wife Elizabeth, daughter to the Right Honourable Robert Lord Spencer of Wormleyton, who dying without any yssue surviving her, he re-married to his 2d wife Anne, daughter of Sir Oliver Butler of Teston in Kent, Knight, and hath yssue by her now living, Spencer Fane, a sonne, and a daughter, named Anne Fane; Frances Fane, daughter to the said deceased lady, was married to Sir Robert Brett of Malling Abbey in Kent, Knight, but she deceased before him, leaving no yssue surviving her. The officers of arms attended this funeral: the Countesse of Westmerland was chief mourner, supported by the Earl Humes and the Lord Le Despencer, assisted by my Lord's five daughters and Sir George Fane's lady, her trayne borne by the relict Lady Leveson; the assistants to the corps were four of my Lord's youngest sonnes; the great banner borne by Sir Henry Fane, Knight, cofferer to King Charles; the four banner-rolls carried by Sir George Fane, Sir Francis

Wortley, Baronet, Sir Richard Leveson, Knight of the Bath, and Sir Warham St. Leger, Knight; the penon borne by Rowland Woodward, Esq; All which were offered up to the Earle of Westmerland.

WESTMERLAND.

THOMAS HOWARD; Earl of SUFFOLK.

The Right Honourable THOMAS HOWARD; Earl of Suffolk and Baron of Walden, Knight of the most noble order of the garter, and one of the lords of the king's majesty's most honourable pryvy council, departed this present life at Suffolk-house near Charing Crosse the xxviiith of Maye in the yeare of our Lord 1626. He was the second sonne of Thomas Duke of Norfolk, and of Margaret his second wife, daughter and only heire of Thomas Lord Audley of Walden. This honourable defunct married Katharine, eldest daughter and one of the heires of Sir Henry Knivett of Charlton in Wiltshire, Knight, widow of Richard, eldest sonne of Robert Lord Riche; by whom he had yssue, Theophilus, eldest sonne, nowe Earle of Suffolk, and Lord Howard of Walden, who married Lady Elizabeth, daughter and coheire of George Hume, Earle of Dunbarr; Thomas, 2d sonne, Earle of Berkshire and Viscount Andover, who married Lady Elizabeth, daughter of William Earle of Excester; Henry, 3d sonne, who married Elizabeth, daughter and sole heire of Ralph Bassett of Blore, in the countye of Stafford, Esq; Sir Charles Howard, Knt. 4th sonne, who married Mary, daughter and heire of Sir John Fitz of Devonshire, and widow of Thomas Darcy, sonne and heire apparent of Thomas nowe Earle Rivers; Viscount Colchester and Baron Darcy of Chiche; before that having been the widow of Sir Allan Percy, Knight; Sir Robert Howard, 5th sonne, Knight of the Bath at the creation of Prince Charles; Sir William Howard, 6th sonne, Knight of the Bath likewise at the creation of Prince Charles; Sir Edward Howard, 7th sonne, Knight of the Bath also at the creation of Prince Charles; Lady Elizabeth, eldest daughter, married to William Earle of Banburye; Lady Frances, 2d daughter, married to Robert Earle of Somerset; Lady Katharine, 3d daughter, married to William Earle of Salisbury; Lady Margaret, 4th daughter,

daughter, dyed young, and was buried at Walden in Essex. This honourable defunct lyeth interred in the parish church of Walden in a vault under the chauncell. This certificate was taken by Thomas Preston, Portcullis, the second daye of Maye 1627.

FOULKE GREVILL, Lord BROOKE.

The Right Honourable Sir FOULKE GREVILL, Knight of the Bath, created by our late soveraigne lorde Kinge James Lord Brooke of Beauchamp's Court, in the countye of Warwick. Being descended of an heire general of the auncient baronye of Willoughby Lord Brooke, he was some tyme servant in an honourable place to our late soveraigne lady Queene Elizabeth, after whose death he was first made Chauncellour of the Exchequer and Privye Councillor to our dread soveraigne lorde Kinge James, and one of the gentlemen of his majesty's bed-chamber: he was at the tyme of his death counsellor of estate to our most dread soveraigne lorde King Charles that now is, and having attayned to the age of 74 yeres, departed this mortall life at Brooke-houſe in Holborne upon Tues-day the xxxth of September 1628, whose body was moſte honourably conveyed from thence to his caſtle at Warwick, where his funerall was moſte nobly ſolempnized, according to his eſtate, upon Monday the 27th of October following. He dyed a batchelor; his heire to the baronye was Robert Grevill Lorde Brooke, his uncle's grandchild, upon whom the ſaid baronye was eſtated, who was principal mourner at the ſaid funeral, being then of the age of xxi years, and not married. The executors of his laſt will and teſtament were the Right Honourable Sir John Coke, Knight, principal ſecretarye of ſtate, Sir Francis Swift, Knight, Mr. Michaell Mallett, and Mr. William Vyner. The officers of armes attended this funeral, by whom this certificate was taken, and verified by the ſubſcription of

JO: COKE.

MICH: MALLETT.

FRA: SWIFT.

WM VYNER.

ANTONY-

ANTONY-MARIA BROWNE, Viscount MOUNTAGUE.

The Right Honourable ANTONY-MARIA BROWNE, Viscount Mountague, departed this mortall and transitorie life the 23d of October 1629, and was interred in the parish church of Midhurst in Suffex by his auncestors, the 27th of the said month following. He married JANE, daughter of the Right Honourable Thomas Sackville, Earle of Dorset and Lord High Treasurer of England; by whom he had yssue Francis Browne, nowe Viscount Mountague, his sonne and heire, and six daughters; Maria, eldest daughter, married to William Pawlet Lord St. John of Basing, sonne and heire to the Marquis of Winchester, after to William, 2d sonne of Thomas Lord Arundel of Wardour; Katharine, 2d daughter, married to William Tirwhit of Kettleby, in the countie of Lincolne; Anne and Lucie, nunnes beyond seas; Frances, married to John Blomer of the countie of Glocester, Esquire; Marie, yongest daughter, married to Robert Petre, sonne and heire of the Lord Petre of Writtell in Essex. The executors of his last will and testament were Mr. Robert Petre, his sonne-in-law, and Mr. Thomas Arundell, sonne and heire to the Lord Arundell of Wardour. This certificate was taken by Sampson Lennard, Blew Mantle.

GEORGE ABBOT, Arch Bishop of CANTERBURY.

The moste Reverend Father in God GEORGE ABBOT, late Arch Bishop of Canterbury, primate of all England and metropolitan, was first consecrated bishop of Coventrey and Litchfield, after translated to the see of London; from whence, in the yeare 1611, he was by our late soveraigne Lord King James translated into the metropolitan see of Canterbury, where he continued 22 yeares compleat, and was one of the moste honourable privie counsell to his sacred majesty, and to our moste gracious soveraigne that nowe is; and having attayned the yeares of 71, dyed at his pallace at Croydon on the 4th daye of August, in the yeare of our Lord 1633, being never married: whilst he lived, he bestowed much in pious uses, amongst which he founded a fayre hospitall and workhouse

for the poore at Guildford, where he was borne, endowing it with a revenew of 300*l.* per annum. His funerals were most honourably solemnized at Croydon aforesaid on Tuesday the 3d of September following, and after the ceremony there ended, his grace's corpes was honourably conveyed to Guildford, attended with many of his friends and kindred in coaches. At Guildford the mayor, with his brethren, stood in readines to receive him, and attended on his corpes to Trinity church, where he was interred. He made Sir Morris Abbott, Knt. citizen and alderman of London, his 5th brother, with Mr. Morris Abbott, 2d sonne of the said Sir Morris, executors of his last will and testament, who performed all things in a moste honourable and decent manner, according to the greatnes and dignity of the place and offices he bore in the common wealth, etc. etc. Certified the 12 September 1633.

MORRIS ABBOTT.

GEO. ABBOTT.

ACCEPTED FREWEN, Arch Bishop of YORK.

The most Reverend Father in God ACCEPTED, Lord Arch Bishop of York, primate of England, metropolitan, departed this mortall life at his house at Bishop's Thorpe neare York (newly repaired at his great charge) on Monday the 28th of March 1664, in the 76th yeare of his age. He was made chap-laine in ordinary to his sacred Majesty King Charles I. in the yeare 1625, and the yeare following was chosen president of Magdalen College in Oxford, whereof he was both pupill and fellow; and whilst he performed that charge with singular prudence, he was made deane of Gloucestre, and fower times vice-chancellor of that famous univerfity; and in the yeare 1644 he was consecrated bishop of Coventry and Litchfield; but the fury of the late times prevented him in the administration thereof, and retired him to a very strict solitude, till upon his majesty's most happy returne to his government, he was translated to the see of York on the 14th of November 1660. After his death his corpes was privately removed to York, and there for divers dayes deposited in that decent state that was fuitable to the dignity of so greate a prelate; and on Tuesday

day the 3d of May was with all solemnity interred under the greates east window of the cathedral church of St. Peter: the chief mourner was Mr. Stephen Frewen the sole executor and only-surviving brother of the defunct. The officers of arms attended this funeral, and the certificate here set forth was taken by Henry St. George, Esq; Richmond Herald, and attested by the said Mr. Stephen Frewen.

JAMES LEY, Earle of MARLEBOROUGH.

The Right Honourable and most noble Lord JAMES LEY, Earle of Marleborough, Baron Ley of Ley, sonne of Henry Earle of Marleborough, and grand-child of James first Earle of Marleborough, and Lord High Treasurer of England in the beginning of the reigne of the late King Charles, did from his youth apply himselfe to learned and generous studies, whereby he rendered himselfe highly capable to serve his prince and countrey; of which he gave signall testimony from the beginning of the late unhappy rebellion to the minute of his death, not onely by voluntarily exposing his person to all dangers, and valiantly fighting in his majesty's armies, but in applying himselfe to navigation, wherein he became most expert, spending therein the greatest part of the last twenty yeares of his life, together with his patrimony, and in that time visited the American plantations and the West and East Indies, to the last of which he was sent by his majesty, anno 1662, with a fleet of ships and forces, to take possession of Bombaya in the East Indies, which, by agreement with the crown of Portugal, was then to be rendered to his majesty; in which charge he demeaned himselfe as became a man of honour and prudence. Lastly, this most noble Earle having the command of one of his majesty's principal ships of war, called the Old James, after he had rendered all possible proofes of his conduct and courage in the late naval battle against the Dutch, fought upon Saturday the 3d of June under the auspicious command of his Royal Highness James Duke of York, he fell in the bed of honour, being slayne with a great shot, the like of which tooke away also, about halfe an hour before, the life of the Right Honourable and most noble Lord Charles Weston Earle of Portland, sonne of Jherom Earle of

of

of Portland, and grandchild of Richard first Earle of Portland, who succeeded to this Earle's grandfather in the office of Lord High Treasurer of England. This most noble Earle dyed unmarried in the 46th yeare of his age, and was buried near St. Edward's chapel in Westminster Abbey with great solemnity; the particulars whereof are recorded in the Heralds Office with this certificate, which was taken by Sir Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principal king of arms, and attested by the Right Honourable Sir George Carteret, executor to the said noble Earle defunct, the 20th daye of June 1665.

CHARLES BERKELEY, Earle of FALMOUTH.

The Right Honourable and most noble Lord CHARLES BERKELEY, Earle of Falmouth, Baron Botetourt of Langport in England, and Viscount Fitzharding of Beerehaven, and Baron Berkeley of Rathdounne in Ireland, 2d sonne of the Right Honourable Sir Charles Berkeley, Knt. (now Viscount Fitzharding) Treasurer of his majesty's household, and one of his majesty's most honourable privy counsell, did, in pursuance of his loyalty, even from his infancy, with all obsequiousness apply himself unto the service of his majesty and the royall family, then forced to live in exile in foraigne parts, never forsaking them in the lowest condition, but attending his Royall Highness the Duke of York in the armyes, both in France and Flanders, which induced his majesty, since his happy restoration, to conferr those honours upon him, as also to make him keeper of the privy purse, and his Royall Highness to constitute him lieutenant-governor of Portsmouth, and captain of his horse-guards: hereupon, as an effect of gratitude and zeal to the service of his majesty and his royall highness, his lordship, some few dayes before the late engagement between the royall navy commanded by his royall highness and that of the Dutch, obtayned leave to goe on board his royall highness's ship, to be present and partaker in the danger; where, in the naval battle fought upon Saturday the 3d of June, his lordship (being then very neare the person of his royall highness) was slayne with the same shot that also in the same moment deprived of life Charles Maccarty, Viscount Muskerry, and Richard Boyle, Esq; 2d sonne of Richard Earle of Burlington and Corke.

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This most noble Earle married MARY, daughter of Colonel Harvey Bagot, Esq. by whom he left issue the Lady Mary Berkeley, his sole daughter and heire, being three weeks old at his death. As for his funeral, his majesty (as an effect of the great favour and value he had for so meritorious a servant and subject) commanded that the same should be solemnized at his majesty's expence, which was most sumptuously performed, the Lord Arch Bishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Dukes of Monmouth and Ormond, and divers of the nobility of the three kingdoms attending, &c. &c. The corps were interred in a chapell on the north side of St. Edward's. This certificate was taken by Sir Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principal king of arms, and attested by the Right Honourable Charles Viscount Fitzharding, father to the most noble Earle deceased, this 24th of June 1665.

ALGERNOUN PERCY, Earl of NORTHUMBERLAND.

The Right Honourable and most noble Lord ALGERNOUN PERCY, tenth Earle of Northumberland of that family, Baron Percy, Lucy, Poynings, Fitzpaine, Brian, and Latimer, one of the Lords of his majesty's most honourable privy council, Lord Lieutenant of the countyes of Northumberland and Suffex, and Knight of the most noble order of the garter, departed this mortall life in the 67th yeare of his age, at his honor of Petworth, in the countye of Suffex, the 13th daye of October 1668, and was privately interred in a vault in the church of Petworth appropriated to his noble family, the 4th day of November following. This most noble Earle married two wives; the first was the Lady ANNE, eldest daughter of the Right Honourable William Earle of Salisbury, &c. and Knight of the garter, by whom he had issue six daughters, two only living to be married; viz. the Lady Anne Percy, the eldest, was married unto Philip Lord Stanhope, Earle of Chesterfield, and dyed without issue; the Lady Elizabeth, 2d daughter, is now wife of Arthur Lord Capell, Earle of Effex, by whom he hath issue the Lady Elizabeth Capell, about five yeares old. The second wife of this most noble Earle is the Lady ELIZABETH HOWARD, daughter of Theophilus Earle of Suffolke, Knight of the garter, deceased, who sur-

vices him; by whom he had issue his only son Joceline, now Earle of Northumberland, &c. and Lord Lieutenant of the Countyes of Northumberland and Suffex, who hath married the Lady Elizabeth Withelley, third daughter and coheire of Thomas Earle of Southampton, late Lord High Treasurer of England, &c. deceased, and sole heire of his second wife the Lady Elizabeth Leigh, who was daughter and coheire of Francis Lord Dunsmore, Earle of Chichester, deceased, by whom he hath issue the Lady Elizabeth Percy, aged about two yeares, as yet his only child. This certificate was taken the 29th daye of December 1668, by Sir Edward Walker, Knight, Garter principal king of arms, and attested by the subscription of the Right Honourable Joceline Earle of Northumberland, sonne and heire of the most noble Algernoun Earle of Northumberland, deceased.

Sir WILLIAM WILLUGHBY, Baronet.

The Right Worshipsul Sir WILLIAM WILLUGHBY of Selston, in the county of Nottingham, Baronet, one of the Gentlemen of his majesty's privy chamber, as also one of his Deputy Lieutenants, and Captain of a troop of horse within the same county, departed this mortal life at his house called Selston-hall upon Fryday the tenth of February, a^o 1670; whose funeral was honourably solemnized according to his degree on Thursday the 11th May next ensuing, from Selston-hall to the parish church of Selston, where he was interred on the south side of the chancel. He married MARGARET, daughter and sole heire to George Abbot, sonne and heire of Sir Morris Abbot, Knt. but left no issue by her then surviving; whereupon Mary, wife of Beaumont Dixey of Bosworth, in the county of Leicester, Esq; sonne and heire to Sir Wolston Dixey, Bart. (only sister to the defunct) became his lineal heire.

Sir FRANCIS CHAPLIN, Knight.

Sir FRANCIS CHAPLIN, Knt. late Lord Mayor of the city of London, and Alderman of Vintry Ward, one of the governors of Christ Hospital (to which

said

said hospital he bequeathed two hundred pounds by his last will and testament) departed this life at his house in Bury-street, on Sunday the 27th day of June 1680, and was privately interred in the parish church of St. Catharine Cree on Saturday the 3d day of July following. The said Sir Francis Chaplin was eldest son of Sir Robert Chaplin of Bury St. Edmond's, in the county of Suffolk, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Francis Asly of Bury St. Edmond's aforesaid; which said Robert Chaplin, and Elizabeth his wife, left issue (besides the deceased) Robert Chaplin of the parish of St. Swithin, London, Merchant, his second son, who married Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Tomkins of Mornington, in the county of Hereford, Knight, and widow of Roger Vaughan of the county of Hereford aforesaid, Esq; The said Sir Francis Chaplin the defunct married ANNE, the daughter of Daniel Huett of Essex, Esq; by whom he left issue John Chaplin, his eldest son; Charles, 2d son; Robert, 3d son; and Anne, his only daughter. John Chaplin, Esq; son and heir of the defunct, married Elizabeth, the daughter and sole heir of Sir John Hamby of Tathwel, in the county of Lincoln, Knt. by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir of Richard Porter of Lamberhurst in Kent, Esq; by whom he hath issue three sons and one daughter; viz. Porter, eldest son; Francis, 2d son; and John, 3d son, and Anne his daughter. This certificate was taken the 23d of July 1683, by Henry St. George, Knt. Clarenceux king of arms, and attested by the subscription of Robert Chaplin, brother to the defunct.

ROB: CHAPLIN.

Sir EDWARD TURNOR, Knt. LORD CHIEF BARON, &c.

Sir EDWARD TURNOR, Knight, late Lord Chief Baron of his majesty's court of Exchequer, departed this life on the 4 day of March 1675, at the town and borough of Bedford, during the publick assizes there, being then one of the judges itinerant for the Norfolk circuit; from thence his body was privately removed to his house in Chancery-lane, London, where it remained till Thursday the 10 day of the said month; on which day it was with all due solemnity

solemnity befitting his degree conveyed through the city of London, accompanied with a great number of coaches, as the king's, queen's, their royal highnesses, the Arch Bishop of Canterbury's, the Lord Chancellor's, and divers of the nobility, relations, and others, as far as Kingsland juxta Newington, and proceeding thence to Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire, it was met by the principal gentry both of the counties of Hertford and Essex, who accompanied the corps to Little Parendon in Essex, where it was interred on the fourth side of the chancel of that parish church. He was eldest son of Arthur Turnor of Parendon Parva, Serjeant at law, by Anne his wife, daughter of John Jermy of Gunton, in the county of Norfolk, Esq; He was born near the Old Exchange, London, in the house of his uncle Sir Thomas Moulson, some time Lord Mayor of the said city; he was bred at school under Dr. Godwin, who writ the Roman Antiquities; from thence sent to Queen's College in Oxford under Dr. Barlow, now Bishop of Lincoln; from thence to the Middle Temple, where he studied the laws, until upon the king's restoration in the year 1660, he was made Knight, and one of the king's council in the law, and attorney-general to his royal highness: in the year 1661 he was chosen burgefs for the town of Hertford to serve in that parliament, and then chosen Speaker thereof; and during the time of being Speaker he was made solicitor-general to his majesty, in the Easter-term 1671 made serjeant at law, and the same term was sworn Lord Chief Baron of his majesty's court of Exchequer, in which office he continued till his death. He married, firstly, Sarah, daughter and heir to Gerard Gore, Esq; Alderman of London, by whom he had issue four sons and two daughters; viz. Sir Edward Turnor, Kat. his eldest son, who married the Lady Isabella Keith, daughter and coheir of the Right Hon^{ble} William Earl Marshal of Scotland, and by her hath had issue two sons, Charles, his son and heir, and Edward, who died an infant, and five daughters; Anne, Isabella, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Mary (whereof Sarah and Mary only survived): Arthur, 2d son, and Gerard, 3d son to the defunct, died infants; Arthur, 4th son, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Urlin of Eaton, in com. Berks, Esq; by whom he hath issue one son, named Edward. The daughters of the defunct are Sarah, married to George Clarke of Watford, in com. Northampton, Esq; the other, named Anne, died an infant.

The

The second wife to the defunct was **MARY**, daughter and heir of Henry Ewer of South Mimms, in com. Midx. Gent. widow of William Ashton of Tingleth, in com. Bedford, Esq; but by her he hath had no issue.

The officers of arms who marshalled this funeral were Henry St. George, Esq; Richmond Herald, and Robert Devenish, Esq; York Herald; and the truth of this certificate is attested by the before-mentioned Sir Edward Turner, Knt. son and heir to the defunct, the sixth day of March 1682, annoq; R. & Caroli Secundi, nunc Angliæ, etc. 35°.

I must here beg the Reader's excuse, if I have too long detained him with so many examples of the same kind, of which we have many volumes finely preserved on vellum; but as such monumental pedigrees have not hitherto been published, and as the same tend so much to the honour and preservation of the memory of families, I hope they are not improperly introduced here, because such Funeral Certificates must ever be held in veneration, not only for the Genealogies they contain, but also for the great use and advantages that may arise from them to the public in general in various other instances: to the Historian they may be of excellent service to assist him in the chronology of remarkable transactions at home or abroad, in peace or war; the several steps to preferment in church or state; where family alliances principally lie are thereby known; and a multitude of discoveries made, which may give lights into the changes and proceedings of government, &c. are abundant proofs of their value and use to posterity.

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But

But to resume the subject of Parish Registers, I shall here beg leave to present the reader with a few examples of certificates lately registered in the HERALDS OFFICE, in support of pedigrees for families residing abroad, which will shew the exactness and attention that is generally paid to these affairs by other nations.

From the pedigree of Baron QUARLES, Lord of Tedingweerd in Guelderland, &c.

" JEAN QUARLES, bachelier, né à Londres, demeure à Delft avec PETRO-
NELLA VAN BERCHELL, demoiselle de Rotterdam, ayant eu leur trois an-
nonces de mariages sans aucun empêchement légitime, sont publiquement
dans l'église de Rotterdam investis dans le saint état de mariage le 31 Octobre
1628.

JOHANNES WILHELMINS,

Ecclesiæ Rottrodi.

Extrait du Registre de baptêmes de l'église Walonne de Voorburg.

" Le 22 Janvier 1760 est née HENRIETTE PHILIPPINE WELCHMINE
FREDERIQUE, fille de Monsieur le Baron Guillaume de Quarles, Seigneur
de Thedingweerd, et de Madame la Baronne Louise Henriette de Wyhe
d'Egtel son épouse : elle a été présentée au baptême le 3 Février 1760 par
Monsieur son père et par Madame la Baronne de Heckeren de Camperbeke,
née Baronne de Wyhe, qui en est marraine.

" Fait à Voorburg le 26 May 1763.

J. J. Cussy, Pasteur."

" Pro vero Extr.

From

From the continuation of the family pedigree of Acton, of Befançon in France, descended from the ancient ACTONS of Aldenham, &c. in the county of Salop.

WALTER ACTON (2d son of Sir Walter Acton of Aldenham, in the county of Salop, Bart.) citizen and goldsmith of London, &c. = CATHARINE, daughter of Oliver Pocklington of Brinkton, in the county of Hunt. M.D. &c. &c.

EDWARD ACTON, eldest son, born 11 Nov. 1679, &c. married 6 Feb. 1707, ob. 3 May 1728, at. 49, and was buried at Camberwell, &c. &c.

CATHARINE, daughter of John Steventon of the family of Steventon of Dodhil, in the county of Salop. She died 25 Dec. 1715.

OLIVER ACTON, born 28 Novemb. 1695, an attorney of the court of Com. Pleas, &c. &c.

EDWARD ACTON, eldest son, born 11 June 1709, &c. now residing in the city of Befançon, in the province of Burgundy, &c.

CATHARINE, daughter of Francis Louis de Gray in the province of Burgundy, Esq;

JOHN ACTON, Commodore in chief of the Imperial navy.

JOHN-FRANCIS ACTON, eldest son, bapt. 3 June 1736, an officer in the Imper. service in Tuscany.

JOSEPH-EDWARD, 2d son, born 1737, an officer of horse in France.

PHILIP-EDWARD, 3d son, born 1740, an officer of horse in France.

SUSANNA-CATHARINE, born 1738, now living at Befançon, unmarried.

OLIVER ACTON, Gent. an attorney in the court of Common Pleas, and steward of the hospital of Bridewell, London (the same Oliver Acton above-mentioned) by his affidavit, and authentic evidences which are entered in the Heralds Office, prove the former part of this pedigree, and the certificates from

from the Register abroad the latter. That for JOHN-FRANCIS ACTON, the eldest son, is as follows :

Extrait des Registres de la paroisse de St. Marcellin de Besançon.

" JEAN FRANÇOIS EDOUARD, fils de Monsieur Edouard Acton, Gentilhomme
" Anglois, et de Madame Catharine Loïs son épouse, a été baptisé le trois Juin
" Mil sept cent trente six : il a eu pour parrain Monsieur Jean Etienne Caboud,
" Lieutenant-General du bailliage de Besançon, et pour marreine Madame Fran-
" çoise d'Offon."

" Certifie le present extrait conforme à l'original : à Besançon 10 May 1762.

D. GEORGE COUDERET, Ret. Ben.
Curé de St. Marcellin."

" Nous ANTOINE FRANÇOIS DES POTOTS, Ecuyer, President au presidial,
" Lieutenant-General au bailliage de Besançon au comté de Bourgoyne, où le
" papier timbré n'est pas en usage, certifions à tous à qui il apartiendra, que
" Dom. George Couderet, qui a signé l'extrait baptistaire cy-dessus, est religieux
" Benedictin Curé de la paroisse de St. Marcellin de cette ville, et que foy
" pleine et entiere y doit estre ajoutée comme à tous autres actes qu'il signe en
" cette qualité; en temoignage de quoy nous avons signé les presentes, et y
" avons aposé le sceau du roy, dont on se sert en ce balliage. Donné en nostre
" hotel à Besançon le onze May Mil sept cent soixante deux."

" Nous Vicaire-General de son eminence Monseigneur le Cardinal de Choiseul
" Beaupré, Archeveque de Besançon, Prince du St. Empire, certifions à qui il
" appartient, que Dom. Couderet, qui a écrit, signé, et delivré l'acte d'autre
" part inseré, est tel qu'il se qualifie; que foy pleine et entiere doit y être ajou-
" tée tant en jugement que de hors, certifions en outre, que le papier timbré
" n'est point en usage au comté de Bourgoyne. A Besançon le onze May Mil
" sept cent soixante deux.

G A L O I S, Vic. Ger.

" Par M. le Vicaire-General JOLICARS."

Part

Part of the pedigree of Sir JOHN LAMBERT, Bart.

Sir JOHN LAMBERT, Knt. born—MADELAIN, daughter of Benjamin Beauzelin, of Roan in Normandy: she died in Clarges-street, Piccadilly, 1737, æt. 70.
 anno 1666, created a baronet of Great Britain by letters patent 16 Feb. 1710, 9^o Annæ Regina: he died Feb. 4, 1722.

Sir JOHN LAMBERT of the parish of St. Peter le Poor, London, Baronet. — ANNE, daughter of Tempest Holmes, Esq; late one of the commissioners of his majesty's victualling office, living at Paris, 1762. BENJAMIN LAMBERT of London, Esquire.

Sir JOHN LAMBERT, baptiz'd in the parish church of Saint Peter le Poor, London, Oâ. 11, 1728, living 1762.	ROBERT ALEXANDER LAMBERT, 2d son, born at Paris, and baptized there 24th July 1732, living 1762.	BENJAMIN LIDDEL LAMBERT, 3d son, born at Paris 6 Aug. and baptized 20th of said month 1736.	BERKELEY FITZWILLIAMS LAMBERT, 4th son, born at Paris, and baptized there the 11th Jan. 1738 N.S.
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Proofs of the births of the three sons born at Paris; viz.

The baptism of ROBERT ALEXANDER, 2d son of Sir John Lambert, and Lady Anne Holmes his wife, is certified by the Rev. Anthony Thompson, chaplain to his excellency the late Earl of Waldegrave, then charged with his late majesty's affairs at the court of France, with these particulars, that Robert Knight, Esq; and Mr. Alexander Alexander, were the godfathers, and Mrs. Knight, godmother.

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Certificate

Certificate

Certificate for BERKELEY FITZ-WILLIAMS LAMBERT,
fourth son.

" I the under-written chaplain to his excellency the Earl of Waldegrave, his
" majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary at the court of France,
" do hereby certify, that according to the form required by the church of
" England, and before several witnesses, I baptized BERKELEY FITZ-WIL-
" LIAMS, the new-born son of Sir John Lambert and Lady Anne Lambert, his
" wife, the eleventh day of January in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven
" hundred and thirty-eight.

ANT. THOMPSON.

N. B. The Earls of Berkeley and Fitz-Williams were godfathers, and the
Lady Wolfeley, wife of Sir William Wolfeley of Wolfeley Bridge, in
the county of Stafford, Baronet, godmother.

And from the family pedigree of the Chevalier DE LERY,
Knight of the order of St. Louis; among several other certi-
ficates entered in the HERALDS OFFICE as proofs of that pe-
digree, please to observe the following:

Extrait des Registres des Baptêmes de la paroisse de Ville Marie
en l'île de Montreal en Canada.

" Le cinquieme jour d'Octobre de l'an Mil six cent quatre vingt dix sept a
" été baptizé MARIE RENEE, fille de Renée de Gardeur, Ecuyer, Sieur de Bau-
" vais, Lieutenant dans le detachment de la marine, et de Dame Marie Barbe
" de St. Our son epouse, née le meme jour des dits mois et an: le parrein a
" été Jean Batiste de St. Our, et la marraine Genevieve Marjane de la Valterie,
" femme de Mr. L'Isle, Ecuyer et Lieutenant dans le dit detachment. Signé,
" DE L'ESCHAILLON, GENEVIEVE DE LA VALTERIE, R. C. DE BRESLAY,
" faisant les fonctions Curiales."

" Je

“ Je sous-signé, Pretre Vicairé de la dite paroisse de Ville Marie, certifie que
 “ le present extrait est veritable et conforme à son original. Expedie ce 4 Juil-
 “ let 1715.

PRIAT, Vicairé.”

Extrait des Registres de la paroisse de Quebec pour les Ba-
 têmes, Mariages, et Enterrement, fait en 1721.

“ Le vingt et unieme Juillet Mil sept cent et un, par nous Pretre sous-signé a
 “ été baptisé GASPARD JOSEPH, né le jour precedent du legitime mariage de
 “ Gaspar Chaussegros, Ecuyer, Sieur de Lery, Capitaine Ingenieur, et de Dame
 “ Marie René Legardeur de Bauvais ; paraine Alexandre Joseph de Lestimgand,
 “ Ecuyer, Sieur de St. Martin, Capitaine Commandant de les troupes en ce país ;
 “ maraine Dame Louise Legardeur, veuve de Monsieur de Villeray.

Signé au Registre, CHAUSSEGROS de Lery,

DE LESTIMGAND de St. Martin,

LOUISE LEGARDEUR de Villeray Bouillard.

“ Nous Pretre Curé de Quebec certiffions le present extrait veritable et con-
 “ forme à l'original ; en foy dequoy nous l'avons signé au dit Quebec le vingt
 “ deux Octobre Mil sept cent cinquante et un.

J. F. RECHES, Curé de Quebec.

“ Nous Henrie Marie du Breil de Pombriand, par la misericorde de Dieu et
 “ la grace du St. Siege Apostolique Eveque de Quebec, suffragant immediat du
 “ St. Seige, Conseiller du roy en tous ses conseils, etc. certiffions à qui il appar-
 “ tiendra, que la signature de l'extrait de l'autre part est veritablement du Sr
 “ Rechés, Curé de Quebec, et que foy peut et doit y être ajouté. Donné à
 “ Quebec en notre palais episcopal sous notre seing, le sceau de nos armes, et
 “ le contre-seing de notre secretaire, ce 26 Octobre Mil sept cent cinquante un.

H. M. Eveque de Quebec.”

To this is added a similar certificate, signed by the Chevalier François Bigot, Intendant of all New France.

Extrait du Registre de Bapt. faits à l'église paroisse de St. Eustache à Paris.

" 1762, le Vendredi 15 Octobre fut baptisé LOUIS RENE, né de Mercredi, dernier fils de Messire Joseph Gaspard Chaussegros, Ecuyer, Sieur de Lery, Chevalier de St. Louis, Capitaine dans les troupes du Roy cy devant en Canada, et de Dame Louise Martelle de Brouague son épouse, demeurants en rue du Bouloir; le parrain Messire Jean Louis la Corne, Pretre du diocèse de Canada; la marraine Renée de la Vallière, épouse de Monf. Dulinot, Conseiller du cy devant grand voyer en Canada; lesquels ont signé."

" Collationé à l'original et delivré par moi Pretre Bachelier en theologie de faculté de Paris, Predicateur ordinaire du roy, et Vicaire de la dite eglise.

" A Paris ce 25 Octobre 1762.

FRESNEAU."

The General Registry of BIRTHS established in the HERALDS OFFICE, calculated to comprehend the numerous births of persons not baptized in the established church, is certainly a good one, and will be of great use in clearing up many difficulties with regard to INHERITANCES and CLAIMS of different natures; but as this is not known, perhaps, so generally as it might be, I shall, for the sake of all persons, whether natives or foreigners, whom the extensive commerce of this nation may invite to live among us, give them the following PLAN, established in the year 1747, which I presume will not be unacceptable.

L

A GENERAL

A GENERAL
REGISTRY OF BIRTHS,
KEPT AT
The HERALDS OFFICE,
On St. Benet's Hill near St. Paul's, LONDON.

THE supreme Courts of judicature being held near this metropolis, a GENERAL REGISTRY of BIRTHS from all parts of his majesty's dominions collected into one, and ready at hand to be consulted, as in the case of Wills, must save great trouble and expence, which people are put to when it is necessary to consult such Registers as are now kept dispersed in the several parishes, and which do not comprehend the numerous births of children not baptized in the established church, or not baptized at all.

Proper books are provided for making the necessary entries; viz. for LONDON, and Places within the BILLS of MORTALITY; for the COUNTRY; and for the COLONIES abroad: likewise one for entering the births of persons of any age born before Christmas-day 1747.

There

There is daily attendance given, Holidays excepted, at the COLLEGE OF ARMS, or HERALDS OFFICE aforesaid, at the usual office-hours; viz. from Ten in the morning till One, and from Three till Five in the afternoon, by an Herald and a Pursuivant, who are sworn officers; one of whom will make due and exact entries of what is brought before them.

For such who live in London, and can conveniently come to the office, one or both the Parents are desired to attend there in person; or, in case that cannot be done, two persons who were present at the birth; the Midwife for one, if convenient, may attend and sign the entry, which is witnessed by two Officers of Arms in the Register-book, on paying the fee of Half a Crown; and at the same time an attested certificate of the entry made is given upon parchment, and sealed with the seal of the office.

For persons at a distance, they are desired to draw up a certificate, to be signed either by one or both the Parents, or by two persons present at the birth, and, if convenient, the Midwife for one; and to go to some neighbouring Justice of the peace, before whom they are desired to make affidavit of the truth; which certificate and affidavit being transmitted to the Office, with the Fee of Half a Crown, will be duly entered by one of the officers in waiting, and the originals be carefully kept: but if one person present at the birth can attend the
Office,

Office, and bring a certificate signed by one or both the Parents, or two persons present at the birth, done in his presence, such certificate will be entered, the person so attending signing the entry in the Register-book in the presence of one of the officers in waiting.

The time and place of the Parents Marriage is also given in, because it may be a means of proving those marriages with more ease; and the NAME of the Mother's Father must always be inserted.

The form of an ENTRY when both Parents sign.

Our ^{Son JOHN}
^{Daughter ANNE} was born at our ^{House}
^{Lodgings} in the Parish of
^{St. John,} in the ^{County of Essex,}
^{Hatfield,} ^{City of London,} on the fourth day of June, in the
year One thousand seven hundred and forty-one; we having
been married at St. Bride's in London on the third day of
May, in the year 1740; as witness our hands this 6th of Jan.
1747.

RICHARD DOE,

Son of John Doe, by Anne his wife, daughter of Tho. Stiles.

MARY DOE,

Daughter of John Roe, of ^{St. Luke's}
^{Ham} in the ^{City of York.}
^{County of Essex.}

Witnesses present at the birth of John

Doe on June 4, 1741, as above,

A. B. Midwife. C. D. Nurse.

The form of an ENTRY when only one Parent signs.

My ^{Son JOHN,}
^{Daughter ANNE,} by Mary my wife, daughter of John Roe of
 St. Luke's, in the ^{City of York,} to whom I was married at St. Bride's
 Ham, ^{County of Essex,}
 in London on the third day of May, in the year 1740, was
 born at my ^{Lodgings} in the parish of ^{Hatfield,} in the ^{County of Essex,}
^{House} ^{St. John,} ^{City of London,}
 on the fourth day of June, in the year One thousand seven hun-
 dred and forty-one; as witness my hand this 6th Jan. 1747.

Witnesses present at the birth of John

RICHARD DOE,

Doe on June 4, 1741, as above,

Son of John Doe, by Anne his

A. B. Midwife,

wife, daughter of Tho. Stiles.

C. D. Nurse.

The form of an ENTRY when Parents are dead, or
 cannot attend, and the Marriages cannot be known.

JOHN, the ^{Son} of Richard Doe by Mary his wife, daughter
 ANNE, ^{Daughter}
 of John Roe of ^{St. Luke's,} in the ^{City of York,} was born at his father's
^{Ham,} ^{County of Essex,}
^{House} in the parish of ^{St. John,} in the ^{City of London,} on the fourth
^{Lodgings} ^{Hatfield,} ^{County of Essex,}
 day of June, in the year One thousand seven hundred and
 forty-one; at which birth we were present, and do certify that
 the said Richard and Mary Doe did stile themselves man and
 wife, did cohabit, and were reputed as such for at least nine
 months before this child was born; as witness our hands this
 6th Jan. 1747.

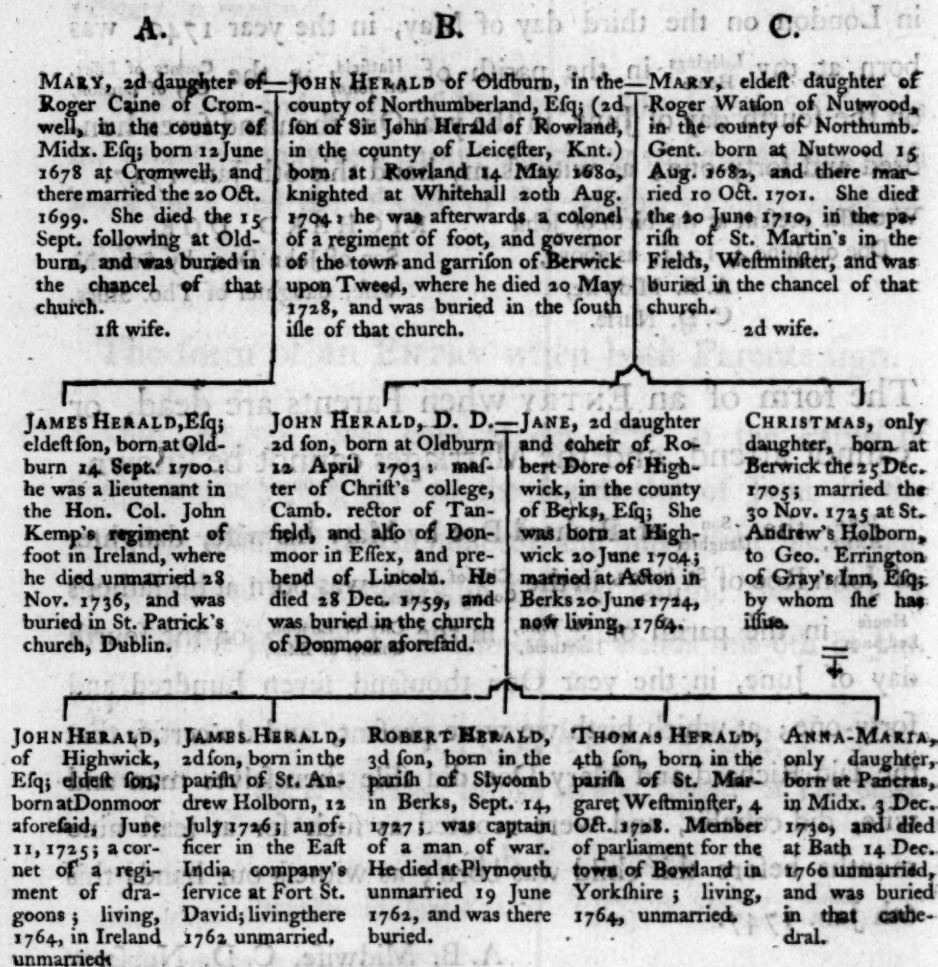
A. B. Midwife, C. D. Nurse,

And others present.

M

And

And as a matter further concerning the present subject, I shall here introduce a short Genealogical Table of feigned Names as a specimen, to shew the manner of Registering Pedigrees in the HERALDS OFFICE at this time; viz.



See the Ancestors of Sir JOHN HERALD and his two wives, p. 50.

And

The truth of such a pedigree must be properly certified by one of the family; and to make it still more valid, with entries of extracts from parish registers, wills, or monumental inscriptions, &c. And if a pedigree should be carried higher than this, or begin before the time that parish registers commenced, an affidavit is not only required, but there must be recourse to wills as aforesaid, deeds, or marriage settlements, to corroborate the same: such or the like proofs, concerning the respective marriages, births, baptisms, deaths, and places of burial, as I shall presently introduce, will, I hope, convince every unprejudiced and impartial person, that Pedigrees thus entered in the Heralds Office, so well fortified, will be deemed hereafter, in cases of affinity and consanguinity, very conclusive; but in case a century hence such a pedigree should be doubted, or the particulars intimated shall not be thought sufficient to support it, go to the war-office, and you will find Sir John Herald the colonel, his eldest son, James the lieutenant, and his grandson John the cornet, in the books there. Examine the several parochial registers, and if properly kept, or not destroyed, you will there find the several entries. Go to Christ's College, Cambridge, &c. and you will there find John Herald, D. D. examine the matriculation books, and you will also find him there proved to be the son of Sir John Herald the colonel: go to Gray's Inn, and there perhaps you will find George Errington, a bencher. And if you want a further proof of the existence of the grandchildren of Sir John

Herald aforesaid, examine the respective registers; and if it should be wanted to discover the death of James, one of the grandsons, who was in the East Indies, and unmarried in the year 1762, examine the East India company's books, and there, according to their wonted exactness and obliging behaviour, you will obtain a very particular account of him. Robert, the third grandson, will be found upon record in the admiralty-office; and Thomas the fourth grandson, the member of parliament, will be found upon that honourable list; and ANNA-MARIA, the grand-daughter, said to have died unmarried, will appear by an inscription in the cathedral at Bath; but in case the inscription should be defaced or worn out, see the *Heralds Collections of monumental Inscriptions in the Heralds Office*, and there you will find an exact copy preserved, as follows:

Here resteth the body of

A N N A - M A R I A,

only daughter of the Rev: JOHN HERALD, D. D.

late Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, and Prebend of Lincoln, &c.

by JANE his wife, 2d daughter and coheir of ROBERT DORE,

of Highwick in the county of Berks, Esq;

and grand-daughter of Sir JOHN HERALD, Knt.

She died in this city unmarried the 14th of Dec: 1760,

aged 30 years.

Her eldest brother JOHN HERALD of Highwick aforesaid, Esq;

by whom she was much beloved, caused this memorial of her
to be placed here,

Anno 1764.

Select

Select Extracts of the REGISTERS of sundry Parishes, with Copies of Monumental Inscriptions, concerning the upper part of the Pedigree of Sir JOHN HERALD, Knt. aforesaid, as follow:

M A R R I A G E S.

WHITBY Register, YORKSHIRE.

HERALD,	Sir JOHN (eld. son of Rich. Herald of York, Esq;) of Row-	1672
and	land in com. Leicester, Knt. B. and JANE, eld. dau. of Sir	May 10.
BILAND.	James Biland of this town, Knt. S. were married by lycence.	

* ST. JOHN's Register, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

CAINE,	ROGER (2d son of Ralph Caine of Exeter, Gent.) of Crom-	1673
and	well in com. Midx. Esq; B. and ELIZABETH, 3d daughter	June 12.
FENWICK.	of Thomas Fenwick of Oldburn in Northumb. S. were married by banns.	

GREENWOOD Register, NORTHUMBERLAND.

WATSON,	ROGER (only son of Charles Watson of Carlisle, M. D.) of	1678
and	Nutwood in this county, Gent. B. and SARAH, 3d daughter	July 14.
SELBY,	of John Selby, and relict of Roger Hall, both of Newby in	
rel. of Hall.	this parish, Esquires, were married by lycence.	

CROMWELL Register, MIDDLESEX.

HERALD,	JOHN (2d son of Sir John Herald of Rowland, in com. Leic.	1699
and	Knt.) of Oldburn in com. Northumb. Esq; B. and MARY,	Oct. 20.
CAINE.	2d da. of Roger Caine of this parish, Esq; S. were married by banns,	

N

NUTWOOD

NUTWOOD Register, NORTHUMBERLAND.

HERALD, JOHN (2d son of Sir John Herald of Rowland, in com. Leic. 1701
and Knt.) of Oldburn in com. Northumb. Esq; W. and MARY, Oct. 10.
WATSON. eld. da. of Roger Watfon of this parish, S. were married by
banns.

BIRTHS and BAPTISMS.

CROMWELL Register, MIDDLESEX.

CAINE. MARY, 2d daughter of Roger Caine of this parish, Esq; Baptisms.
and Elizabeth his wife (3d daughter of Thomas Fenwick of 1678
Oldburn, in com. Northumb.) was born 12 June, and bapt. June 28.
the twenty-eighth of said month.

ROWLAND Register, LEICESTERSHIRE.

HERALD. JOHN, 2d son of Sir John Herald of this parish, and Jane 1680
his wife (eldest dau. of Sir James Biland of Whitby, Knt.) June 2.
was born 14 May, and baptized the second of next month
following.

NUTWOOD Register, NORTHUMBERLAND.

WATSON. MARY, daughter of Roger Watfon of this parish, Gent. 1682
and Sarah his wife (3d daughter of John Selby of Newby, Sept. 1.
in the parish of Greenwood, Esq; and relict of Roger Hall
of Newby aforefaid, Esq;) was born 15 August, and bapt.
the first of September following.

OLDBURN Register, NORTHUMBERLAND.

HERALD. JAMES, the only son of John Herald of this parish, Esq; 1700
and Mary his wife (2d dau. of Roger Caine of Cromwell in Oct. 14.
Midx. Esq;) was born 14 Sept. and baptized the fourteenth
of next month following.

HERALD. JOHN, son of John Herald of this parish, Esq; by Mary his 2d wife (eldest dau. of Roger Watfon of Nutwood in this county, Gent.) was born 12 April, and bapt. the ninth of next month following. 1703 May 9.

BERWICK Register.

HERALD. CHRISTMAS, only daughter of Sir John Herald, Knt. governor of this town, and Mary his 2d wife (eldest dau. of Roger Watfon of Nutwood, in com. Northum. Gent.) was born and baptized on Christmas-day. 1705 Dec. 25.

DEATHS and BURIALS.

OLDBURN Register, NORTHUMBERLAND.

HERALD. MARY, the wife of John Herald of this parish, Esq; (2d dau. of Roger Caine of Cromwell, in com. Midx. Esq;) died 15 Sept. and was buried the twentieth. Burials. 1700 Sept. 20.

ST. MARTIN'S IN THE FIELDS Register, WESTMINSTER.

HERALD. MARY, 2d wife of Sir John Herald of Oldburn, in com. Northum. Knt. (eldest dau. of Roger Watfon of Nutwood, in said county, Gent.) died 20 June, and was buried the twenty-fifth following. 1710 June 25.

BERWICK Register.

HERALD. Sir JOHN HERALD of Oldburn, in com. Northumb. Knt. colonel of a regiment of foot, and governor of this town (2d son of Sir John Herald) died 20 May, and was buried the twenty-third following. 1728 May 23.

St.

ST. PATRICK'S Register, DUBLIN.

HERALD. JAMES HERALD, Esq; (eldest son of Sir John Herald, Knt. late governor of Berwick upon Tweed) died the 28th day of November, and was buried the third of next month following in the north isle. 1734 Dec. 3.

DONMOORE Register, Essex.

HERALD. The Rev. JOHN HERALD, D. D. (2d son of Sir John Herald, Knt.) master of Christ's college, Camb. rector of this church, and prebend of Lincoln, &c. died the 28th day of December last, and was buried this second of January following. 1760 Jan. 2.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

In the chancel of Oldburn church in Northumberland.

Here lieth the body of

M A R Y,

wife of JOHN HERALD of this parish, Esq;

2d daughter of ROGER CAINE of Cromwell,

in the county of Middlesex, Esq;

by ELIZABETH his wife, 3d daughter of THOMAS FENWICK, Esq;

lord of this manor.

She died the 15th day of September 1700,

aged 22 years.

She left issue JAMES, her only son,

who was born the day before his mother died.

In

In the chancel of St. Martin in the Fields, Westminster.

To the memory of

Dame MARY,

2d wife of Sir JOHN HERALD of Oldburn,

in the county of Northumberland, Knt.

eldest daughter of ROGER WATSON of Nutwood, in the said county, Gent.
by SARAH his wife, 3d daughter of JOHN SELBY, and relict of ROGER HALL,
both of Newby in the said county, Esquires.

She departed this life the 20th day of June 1710,

in the 28th year of her age,

leaving issue JOHN, her only son, born the 12th day of April 1703, and

CHRISTMAS, her only daughter, born the 25th day of December 1705.

Entries from Parish Registers, or Copies of monumental Inscriptions as here set forth, when entered with pedigrees in the Heralds Office, will answer the several purposes required; but if pedigrees with such particulars are not entered in the Heralds Office, how will posterity be able to deduce the course of inheritance? not easily from Church Registers or Wills, though they are ever so well kept or preserved, because they are dispersed in so many, perhaps obscure, places in this kingdom, and so widely distant from one another. It is therefore evident, from the frequent instances of the difficulties, trouble, and great expence of obtaining a certain knowledge of wills, and of the places where people have been born, married, buried, or registered, whether in the established church or otherwise, that it is highly necessary, not only for the head or prin-

cipal of every family, but also the younger sons or daughters, carefully to maintain the proofs of their descent, as the succession to estates, titles, &c. after long intermission of time, by the extinction of the former, may happen to revive in the latter.

In the pedigree represented in page 42, beginning with Sir JOHN HERALD and his two wives; neither Sir John's, nor his wives mothers names are mentioned; but if the Reader is curious to trace and discover who they were, let him examine the three first Registers of MARRIAGES and the three first of BIRTHS and BAPTISMS, in p. 45, 46, and there he will find them, and the two last Inscriptions to confirm the same, in the following manner:

CAINE.	FENWICK.	HERALD.	BILAND.	WATSON.	SELBY.
RALPH CAINE of the city of Exeter, Gent.	THOMAS FEN- wick of Old- burn, Esq.	RICHARD HE- RALD of York, Esq.	Sir JAMES BILAND of Whitby.	CHARLES WATSON of Carlisle, M. D.	JOHN SELBY of Newby in Northumber.
ROGER CAINE of Cropwell, in com. Midx. 2d son, mar. at St. John's church in Newcastle upon Tyne, 12 June 1763.	ELIZABETH, 3d daughter of Thomas Fen- wick of Old- burn, in com. Northumber- land, Esq.	Sir JOHN HE- RALD of Row- land, in com. Leic. Knt. eld- est son.	JANE, eld. dau. of Sir James Bi- land, Knt. was marri- ed 10 May 1672.	ROGER WAT- SON of Nut- wood, in com. Northum. Gent. married 14 July 1678.	SARAH, 3d dau. of John Selby, Esquire (rel. of Roger Hall of New- by, Esquire.
A.	B.	C.			
MARY CAINE, 1st wife of Sir JOHN HERALD.	See the continuation of his pe- digree, entered in page 42.	MARY WATSON, 2d wife of Sir JOHN HERALD.			

Having

Having thus far considered the different methods of preserving a remembrance of families, and having particularly shewn the manner of registering pedigrees in the HERALDS OFFICE, it may not be amiss to observe, that the OFFICE is a BODY CORPORATE, acting under a charter of King Richard III. bearing date the first year of his reign. The officers are under oath for the just performance of their duty: they generally meet in the office on the first Thursday in every month, or oftener, if required, where all matters relative to pedigrees and arms of the nobility and gentry, &c. are examined, and if found properly authenticated, are ordered to be entered; but if any difficulty should arise, the matter is determined by a majority of voices of the kings, heralds, &c. I mention this to shew that neither pedigrees or arms can be entered in the Heralds Office, without sufficient proof, and every thing done in due form.

But to resume again the subject concerning the utility of Parochial Registers, I would recommend in every entry of a marriage such particulars as are set forth in that for RICHARD MALLETT of Sutton Mallet, in pages 7, 8, and also according to the examples in p. 45, 46 aforesaid; and because the married couple, if of separate parishes, seldom settle at the place where they are married, if I may venture to offer my opinion to higher powers, I would recommend most humbly to their consideration, that every marriage entered in church registers be to the effect or form following:

M A R-

MARRIAGES, ANNO 1690.

ROBERT TRUMAN of Guildford, in com. Surrey, Esq; B. eldest son and heir of Charles Truman of Melton-Mowbray, in com. Leic. by Sarah his wife, daughter of Sir John Browne of Browne Park, in com. Northumberland, Knt. = MARY, only daughter and heir of William Lovely of Strensham, in com. Worc. S. by Anne his wife, daughter and heir of Stephen Harrington of Harrowbridge, in com. Devon, Esq;

Robert Truman.

Mary Lovely.

were married, &c.

MARRIAGES, ANNO 1700.

JOHN BANISTER of Woodbridge, in com. Suffolk, mercer, B. eldest son of John Banister of Tetbury, in com. Gloc. by Isabel his wife, daughter of William Pool of Newbury, in com. Berks, malster, = MARY, 2d daughter of William Jones of Pensance, in com. Cornwall, merchant, S. by Mary his 2d wife, daughter of Thomas Frampton of Gunby, in com. Linc. grazier,

John Banister.

Mary Jones.

were married in this [church] by [banns] with consent of [parents]
[chapel] [licence] [guardians]
this fourteenth day of February One thousand seven hundred, by me

SOLOMON CHURCHMAN.

In the presence of

JAMES PRUDOM,
DAVID WATSON,

[Rector.
Vicar.
Curate.]

According

According to this plan, JOHN BANISTER the husband, and MARY JONES the wife, not only acknowledge under their hands that the marriage was lawfully solemnized between them, but they also record a circumstantial and particular account of their parents : this testimony is the more to be regarded, because it manifestly is of great importance to all families to have such genealogical accounts transmitted to them.

I would further recommend, that in the entries of all BAPTISMS the names of the father and mother of the child, and also the name of the mother's father, residence, degrees, or occupations, be set forth in like manner as that for EDWARD the son of Sir John Clopton, in page 13, and the examples in page 46 afore said, and then every entry would appear to this purport :

BIRTHS AND BAPTISMS.

BANISTER. JOHN BANISTER, 3d son of John Banister of Woodbridge, in com. Suffolk, mercer, and Mary his wife 1708
Nov. 17.
(2d daughter of William Jones of Penfance, in com. Cornwall, merchant) was born the 20th day of October, and baptized the 17th day of the next month following.

BANISTER. JOHN BANISTER, 4th son of John Banister of Woodbridge afore said, and Mary his wife (2d dau. of William Jones afore said) was born the 20th day of November, and baptized the 15th of the next month following. Dec. 15.

P

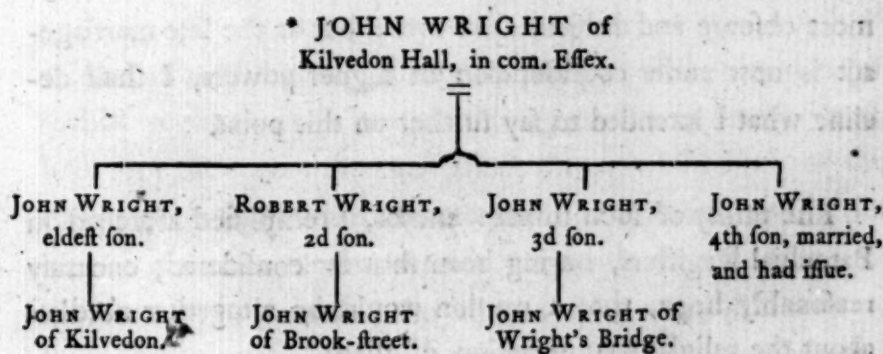
The

The same particulars should be observed as much as possible in the entries of BURIALS; and as to those of adults, the addition of husband, wife, widower, widow, and of whom, bachelor, or spinster; and as to men, their rank or employment in life, and from what parish they are buried, might have its use. It would be proper to express whether it be the first, second, third, or fourth child of A. and B. If the person be a parent, it would be also proper to express it thus; that THOMAS A. was buried, who married ANNE B. or, ANNE B. was buried, who married THOMAS A. In short, every method should be practised to identify the person registered: the minister may hereby indeed be subjected to a little more trouble; but as Property and Inheritance will be better secured, and as this is of the last consequence, it is to be presumed the parties will add something to the usual fee.

If Parish Registers were enriched in every entry with these and the like particulars, every register would then exhibit a general history of its several parishioners; pedigrees, titles to arms, to privileges, to estates, would be traced with greater exactness, and a multitude of discoveries made, which, for want of such particulars, are now for the most part rendered egregiously vague and uncertain; supposing, for instance, JOHN BANISTER to have two or more brothers, called also JOHN, who might all marry (such instances we have particularly in the family of WRIGHT of Kilvedon Hall in Essex, as may be
seen

seen in the visitation for that county in the Heralds Office, C. 21. p. 10. *) and some of their wives names might be MARY, and their sons called JOHN; or the first-mentioned JOHN might have a second wife, whose name might also be MARY: but now, most likely, there can be but one MARY, daughter of William Jones, whereby the descendents of the said JOHN by that wife will be sufficiently enabled to ascertain their descent from JOHN, and in default of heirs male of William Jones, to claim title also to inheritance, and to arms to be borne quarterly, &c. &c.

That scandalous abuse of all good order, so long connived at, of celebrating Marriages in the Fleet, will always be a reflection upon English liberty, and posterity must sooner or later rue the consequences: for if the Registers of such irregular marriages should chance to be preserved, yet, if produced by



way

way of evidence in courts of judicature, of what authority can they be for LEGAL proof, when they themselves are ILLEGAL, and especially as those who kept them, being under no manner of check from any superior, might (and probably they often did) make alterations or erasures in their said Registers, or antedate or post-date them, as they should be bribed so to do?

The provision made in the late marriage-act, obliging the parties to be married in the parish church where one of them is a parishioner, with the attestation of two witnesses besides the minister, is certainly excellent, since thereby the place and proof of the marriage can in after-times be more readily ascertained; yet is the good purport of this clause scandalously evaded by persons removing from one county or place, and taking lodgings to make themselves parishioners for a month only in another, thereby concealing their true parish and established residence, which of course must render the marriage more obscure and dubious than ever: but as the late marriage-act is now under consideration of higher powers, I shall decline what I intended to say further on this point.

The utility of such minute entries, exemplified aforesaid in Parochial Registers, having been thus far considered, one may reasonably hope, that a caution would be altogether needless about the religious conservation of them.

That

That Registers were from their first institution deemed of very singular importance to the nation in general, may be collected from the care the Legislature have from time to time taken about them. The canon of King James I. gives these directions, with penalties of a mulct on failure of observance: "The register shall be kept in the church in a coffer with three keys, for the minister and each of the churchwardens; and that on the Sunday the minister, in the presence of the churchwardens, shall make the entries of the week before; to every page (when filled) they shall all subscribe their names: and the churchwardens shall every year transmit a copy thereof to the bishop's registry."

The Parliament also have thought the care of Registers worthy their particular notice; and accordingly by an act of 6^o and 7^o of King William III. "The minister neglecting to make the proper entries in the parochial register shall forfeit the sum of One hundred Pounds."

And notwithstanding these salutary laws with regard to parochial registers, it is really amazing to see, in many places, how very little care is taken about them, while some of the clergy leave them altogether to the clerk of the parish, for him to make the entries, who is frequently so ignorant of his mother-tongue as not to be able to spell either Christian or Surnames; or whose entries, for want of many necessary particulars,

ticulars, render the persons thus entered as unknown to the next generation as if they had never existed.

That very Register which I first mentioned for its instructive articles in the entry of its marriages, by being afterwards put under the care of a conceited clerk, who was a stranger to the parish, is become for the time altogether as unintelligible; for here, as well as in other registers, persons are married without specifying their parishes; infants are baptized without the least mention of their parents; and so likewise in the burials; viz.

MARRIAGES.

GEORGE ALLEN and ALICE MOUK.

ELLEN ROWLAND and THOMAS WOODHOUSE.

BAPTISMS.

WILLIAM COCK, crifand. An infant crifand.

THOMAS TUCKWELL, son of Adam Clark, was born the 20th of June 1722. He stands registered fourteen days before that time; besides Adam Clark was not the father, but the godfather.

JOHN BOSTOCK, son of the Rev. William and Anne of in the county of was born in the year 1710. He also stands registered a considerable time before he was born.

BURIALS.

A Child of the Earl of Northumberland.

THOMAS RAWLING's wife.

Dr. JOHNSON's lady.

DOROTHY GIFFARD's daughter.

Old Father BEADLE.

A prentice of Mr. SLIFORD.

Old Father ERITAGE.

A Londoner's Child.

A Londoner's Daughter. Good

A sucking Child.

A nurse Child.

A Child of the Windmill

Good wife GOODALL.

Old Mother PUMMELL.

Mother STUDDY.

Gammer SMITH.

The widow MICHELL, from the Ames H. (alms-house).

An owl man from the W. H. (work-house).

Old good wife LEWES.

BLACK JOHN.

Farmer BROWNE.

Tipling TOMLINSON.

Certainly many of the above are no other than nick-names. What different usage I have frequently found in one and the same register! and I choose to instance particularly herein as a caution, with submission, to all ministers officiating, to make the entries of marriages, baptisms, and burials themselves, and never trust so sacred a depositum, as is too often the case, to the blunders of an illiterate clerk, which is thus, and in many other instances, subjected to abuse.

A gentleman having prepared himself to embark for the East Indies, and being of age, proceeded to settle an affair which could not be done before; and as the nature of it was such, that a proof of his age was required by a certificate from the parish register, he had recourse thereto, and found that he stood registered about two years after the time that he was baptized; which unlucky circumstance prevented his going abroad, and proved a great disappointment to him.

Another gentleman died, and left a considerable sum of money in the funds; the relations of the deceased claimed as

next

next of kin; but as it was necessary to prove his death and burial prior to the recovery, had recourse to the parish register, where indeed they found the Surname was entered, but the Christian name was that of a WOMAN, instead of a MAN, which, though no more than a mistake, occasioned some trouble and expence to the parties concerned.

A natural daughter, born in a certain parish, had 5000l. left her, to be paid when she was of age; previous to receiving her legacy a certificate of her age or baptism from the church register was required; to which she had recourse, but in vain; for, after the strictest examination, no entry of her name could be found, notwithstanding she was well assured she was baptized in the church, which, luckily for her, was proved by several living witnesses. The like omission by accident might have happened in any other parish; but as this particular circumstance opened a discovery of many more omissions in the same register, I have thought proper to mention it, as the difficulties resulting from such mistakes are numberless.

I had once occasion to consult the register of in the county of when I was directed to the cottage of a poor labouring man, as clerk of the parish; he not being at home, I informed the children of what I wanted; upon which they pulled out the drawer of an old table, where, among much rubbish of rusty iron, &c. I found the register greatly injured,

by the handling, perhaps, of his children, &c. and had any one an interest therein, might have either altered or carried it off without discovery.

This puts me in mind of another yet more flagrant instance of abuse concerning the register of the parish of in the county of that the clerk being a taylor, and keeper of the registers (according to common report in the parish) so often as he wanted slips of parchment for measures, made no scruple to cut out of the old written register sixteen leaves, and something more, for that purpose. The register was a large folio, and appears formerly to have consisted of eighteen leaves; there lately remained but one whole leaf and two bits, containing entries from the year 1633 to 1639, and some odd dates from that time to 1645.

But now of such essential notices, if once lost, how are they ever to be recovered? you will say, from the register of the bishop of the diocese, whither extracts from every parish register are, or should be, annually sent to be safely deposited. But what if here also should be found neglect? and such as must necessarily tend to the setting aside the above canon (and virtually also the act of parliament) in not properly securing such extracts from the injuries of time, or other accidents.

Of the above instances of neglect I was some time since an eye-witness in the cathedral church of Under a staircase in a place on the north side of the north aisle, upon the damp ground without the security of a door, free for any one to go to, I found a promiscuous heap of extracts of registers, some very fairly transcribed, from the different parishes of the diocese: these, by reason of the damps, were exposed to depredations equally as destructive as those said to be committed by the taylor; and probably are, if not since removed to some securer place, either lost or become illegible.

But the necessity of a religious conservation of these extracts arises not merely by way of evidence, in case the original should be lost, but also in case of forgery in those originals, either by interpolations or erasures, or the like; for as these extracts are to be made annually, and sent to the said registry, any appeal to them, when properly preserved, will be the ready means for detection of such forgery, by giving the entry exactly as it stood in the original.

And such an appeal I remember was once made to the registry of the bishop of Sarum, upon suspicion that a certain parish register in that diocese had been falsified; but how or in what manner was not to be discovered from the register itself; when upon examination of the extract thus appealed to, and readily produced, the whole fraud was laid open; for by comparing

comparing the copy with the original it plainly appeared that the true name, regularly entered in its proper place, had been quite altered to another by an erasure of two letters in the middle, and inserting upon that erasure three other different letters in their room; and then by entering the first name under a date of more than two years later, in order to prevent superannuation for a scholarship in one of our universities: but the detection of the fraud proved the loss of the scholarship, and the immediate junior succeeded, who otherwise in course must have been superannuated. But I must observe, however, that during this forgery the register was in the clerk's custody: but quære, in case of forgeries subsequent to this, who will be most to blame, the clerk, or his principal?

Let us here again observe that the value of registers, and consequently of such extracts from them, is of late very greatly enhanced by the discontinuance of visitations in the several counties of England by the officers of arms; for in such visitations the nobility and gentry did enter their several lineal and collateral descents, and thereby did connect themselves with their first recorded ancestor: from this care and prudence of our ancestors a good extraction is transmitted to their posterity. That this is a real fortune abroad, every one knows who has travelled into Germany or France; and also that no person in those countries, however rich, can enjoy any honourable post or employment unless he can shew proof of a good descent;

scient; qualifications for scholarships, &c. at home; commandries, and orders ecclesiastical, civil, and military abroad, &c.

But although such entries are still regularly made in the Herald's Office by many cautious persons, for the sake of their posterity (the expence attending such entries being very inconsiderable) yet because it is not done so generally as it ought, recourse must now frequently be had for descents, for legitimacy, for privileges, &c. to these parochial registers and the extracts from them.

It was but lately at the assize at Newcastle upon Tyne, that Mr. Gillam, near Rumford in Essex, proved himself the rightful heir to an estate in Northumberland to the value of about 40 or 50,000 l. The estates in suspense, or which were lately so for want of heirs, of the family of STOTE of Jesmond in Northumberland; also that of BARNESLEY of Barnesley Hall in Worcestershire, and several others, are recent instances of the value of Registers, and of the utility that may arise to the community from them when correct, and carefully preserved.

This utility is pressed the stronger on my mind from the labour and difficulty my worthy acquaintance Mr. STEVENS TOTTON underwent for some years in a cause * finally concluded in Michaelmas Term last; wherein he had the pedigree of a

* Jelfon and Wither versus Brewer.

family of some consequence to prove; and though he was not under a necessity of going further back for a common ancestor than the year 1590, yet by means of erasures in some registers, and bad writing in others; some being torn in pieces and appropriated to various uses; others kept in damp places and suffered to moulder away, &c. his difficulties were amazing, and must have been unsurmountable, had he not exercised an uncommon degree of patience and perseverance. He had recourse to almost every record office in the kingdom, and was obliged to be at a very great expence, chiefly owing to defects in the registers; which expence would have been saved, if the parochial registers had been properly kept.

When at any time a minister is desired to consult the register for a parochial name, and that name occurs not, the minister should certify in some such form as this; *I have consulted the Register, and cannot find, in or about the time mentioned, the name required.* The reason of this caution arises from a recent fact; the minister of a certain parish was desired to consult his register for a certain name about a given time; he answered by letter under his own hand, that no such name could be found: he was desired a second time to consult his register, the same answer was returned. Some time after a person accidentally looked into the register, and found what was required. The truth was, the minister had never examined the register, but had left it to the care of his clerk, who was more than half blind.

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As a mark of esteem particularly due to the care of another minister, upon an application like the preceding, I shall take the liberty to give an extract from his own letter:

After giving an account of the searches he had made in his register, and lamenting the loss of ancient monuments, which he imagined were all destroyed when the old church was pulled down in order to be rebuilt; "I searched (says he) through a period of fifty years, before I could find any thing at all to the purpose, through pages so wretchedly written, that they put me in mind of the obscure hand in Queen's college library, Oxford, which neither native nor foreigner hath ever yet been able to read: this task cost me two days hard study in spelling out the dates and names as I went along, which I hope are discoveries answerable to your wishes and expectations; but if there be any mistakes, blame not me, but my predecessors, for the above are true copies to the best of my knowledge." That respect which is due to this gentleman's attention, would not permit me to pass it over in silence.

Before I conclude this discourse on Registers, I cannot help taking notice of and commending the good old custom which still prevails in many parts of England, of entering marriages, births, and burials in family Bibles, Prayer-books, &c. but as entries made therein are seldom so fully expressed as they should be,

be, I will beg leave to recommend the curious reader to see that memorial which Mr. Guthrie has introduced in his English Peerage, p. 304, from one drawn up by Sir William Cavendish for himself, his three wives, and sixteen children; and after Sir William's death signed by the Lady Elizabeth Hardwick his widow, as one of the most remarkable examples of its kind, and as a better can hardly be given.

To this collection of examples concerning Registers the matriculation books in the university of Oxford claim particular notice: having occasion some time ago to examine the date of a young gentleman's entry in that university, I was surprized and pleased to find the great exactness with which such entries are made, for not only the day and year of the entry, but also the age of the young gentleman, and the Christian name and residence of the father were specified, and also whether he was the elder or younger son. I make no doubt but the same exactness is observed in the university of Cambridge.

And that I may not pass over any thing that has the least tendency to preserve the memory of families, I shall introduce a few sepulchral Inscriptions, taken during my residence in Flanders, Holland, &c. to shew how usual it is, even among the common people of those parts, to give the Surnames of their wives on tomb-stones, to which very few in England attend.

M A E S-

MAESTRICHT.

In the church of our LADY.

M. S.

Vidua, Clientes, Pauperes, Cives, Forum,

Astræa, Sophia, Historia, Musarum chori

Nequiere mortu eripere Galenum suum.

Sic nempe cantum est, omnibus restat mori,

Sed vita iustis redditur, malis perit.

**JACOBO GALENO sibiq; ANGELA GREEFTIA, ut pridem
tori, sic tandē tumuli consors R. C. Obiere ille an. Christiano CIOICXXII.
xii kal. Feb. Hæc CIOIC . . .**

ANTWERP.

In the church of our LADY.

CHRISTOPHORO PLANTINO,

Turonensi civi & incolæ Antverpiano

Architypographo Regio,

Pietate, Prudentia, acrimonia ingenii magna,

Constantia & Labore maximo,

cujus industria atque operâ

infinita opera, vetera, nova,

magno & hujus, & futuri seculi bono

in lucem prodierunt.

JOAN RIVIERA conjux & lib. hæredesque,

illa optimo viro, hi parenti

mœsti posuerunt.

Tu qui transis & hæc legis, bonis manibus

bene precare.

Vixit annos LXXV. desit hic vivere

kalend. quintilibus 2º Christi CIO. IC. XXCIX.

D. O. M.

LEONARDUS VERMOELEN, Eleemosinarius
& MARIA VAN ROOSENDAEL conjux.

Obiit ille 20. Junii 1703.

Illa vero 1. Decembris 1708.

In the church of ST. MICHAEL.

PHILIPPO RUBENIO I. C.

Johannis Civis & Senatoris Antverpiæ Fil.

magni LIPSIJ discipulo & alumno,

cujus Doctrinam pœnè assecutus

Modestiam feliciter adæquavit

Bruxellæ præfidi Richardoto

Romæ Ascanio Cardinali Columnæ

ab Epistolis & Studiis

S. P. Q. Antverpiensi à secretis

Abiit, non obiit, virtute, & scriptis sibi superstes

V kal. Septemb. anno Christi CIO DC XL. Æ. XXXIIX.

Marito bene merenti MARIA DE MOY.

Duam ex illo Liberorum CLARÆ & PHILIPPI mater

Propter illius ejusque matris Mariæ PYPELINX

Sepulchrum, hoc mœroris, & amoris sui

Monumentum P. C.

PHILIPPUS RUBENIUS PHILIPPI F. J. C.

Huic urbi à secretis, & senator decessit

V Octobris 1678. ætatis 67.

D. O. M. S.

MARIÆ PIPELINGIÆ prudentis, lectis, foeminae, quæ matrimonio
juncta fuit JOANNI RUBENIO J. C. & senatori Antverpiensi, eoque or-
bata viduitatem ad diem fati per annos XXII. religiose coluit, PHILIPPUS &

T

PETRUS

PETRUS PAULUS RUBENII cum nepotibus è filia BLANDINA, piæ matri &
B. M. F. Vixit annos LXX. M. VI. D. XXIX. obiit XIV. kal. Novemb.
CIO. IOC. VIII.

In the church of St. JAMES.

ALBERTUS RUBENIUS Petri Pauli Fil.

Regi. Cathol. in sanctiore consilio
à secretis hic situs est.

Qui Politioris omnis Litteraturæ,
Historiæ, Græciæ et Romaniæ, reique
Antiquariæ cognitione nemini cedens,
Honoris medio in cursu decessit

An. Sal. M. DC. LVII. kal. Oct. æta. XLIII.

D. CLARA DEL MONTE

Mariti charissimi desiderio ægra
vixque elapso mense ipsum secuta,
sacro perpetuo in hoc sacello pie

fundata obiit XXV Novemb. M. DC. LVII.

Ætat. XXXIX.

D. O. M.

DANIELIS FORMENT & CLARÆ STAPPAERT conjugum.
obiit hæc 20 Januarij 1639. Ille vero 3 Junii 1643.

Hier leet begræven Jousfrouw ANNA LOMMELINO, weduwe WYLEN
BARTHOLOMEUS GERIBALDI, doghter van BERNARDO LOMMELINO, Ge-
nevois, sterft 1612, 10 Januarij.

RESURRECTIONI SACRUM

PETRUS ROBYNS & BARBARA de WINDELE,
conjuges, quos singularis amor & concordia conjunxit, hoc condi tumulo voluere.
O beatam mutui amoris constantiam! CIO IO CXIII.

NAMUR.

NAMUR.

In the church of St. JOHN.

Icy gist Madame ANNE CATH. d' BRUMAIGNE épouse d' WALTER PHILIPPE d' COLYBAR, Genl d'Infanterie, Colonel d'un Regiment de Infanterie Ecoissoise au service de leurs Hautes Puissances les Etats Generaux des Provinces Unies, Gouverneur de leur part de la ville et du chateau du Namur, laquelle trespassa le 10 Septembre, l'an 1738.

AMSTERDAM.

Hier leyt begraven het lighaam van Juffrouwe MARIA WEMELL, Huyfvroutwe van de Heir JAN VANACRE, brouwer tot Haarlem, en dogter van de Heir JACOBUS WEMELL, koopman tot Dart, by zyn Huyfvroutwe MARIA BIRNE, dogter van de Heir ROBERT BIRNE tot Corke in Ireland. Gestorven op den 25 May 1690, oud 28 Jaaren.

To these foreign inscriptions I will subjoin a few which I transcribed at

EDINBURGH.

In the Gray Fryers church-yard.

Memoriæ charissimæ suæ conjugis CATHERINÆ TOD quæ decēssit 27 Januarij 1679, monumentum hoc extrui curavit maritus superstes WALTERUS CHESLIE de Dalry mercator et civis Edinburgensis.

Memoriæ charissimæ conjugis ELIZABETHÆ PATON JOANNES CUNNINGHAM ad Enterkin sacræ regis majestati & ad ipsius signetum scriba monumentum hoc extruendum curavit.

Hic jacet ANNA RAYE uxor JOHANNIS CARSTAIRS, foemina lectissima, quæ conjugi charissima vixit, & magno omnium bonorum lustu & desiderio morte immatura prærepta est anno Dom. 1632, mensis Julij 14, Ætatis vero 29.

Hic

Hic jacent exuviae ALEXANDRI BETHUNE de Longhirdmondston, signeto regio scribæ; ex prisca & præclara familia de Balfour ortum habentis. Vir erat prudentiâ, pietate & industria haud leviter imbutus. Ex uxore sua MARJORANA KENNEDIE, cum qua triginta annos conjunctissime vixit numerosam sobolem suscepit. Ob. 9. Novembris 1672, Æt. suæ 57.

In HOLY ROOD HOUSE church-yard.

Memoriæ dilectissimi conjugis JOANNIS PATERSONI, qui eam suavissimo matrimonii vinculo 35 plus minus annos transegisset; & aliquoties Balivi munere in vico Canongate functus esset; obiit anno Christi 1663, April 23. Ætatis 63. Amoris & officij ergo, monumentum hoc dicavit AGNETA LYELL.

LEITH, &c.

Here lyeth MARION MAC KYNE, spouse to JOHN WATSON, &c.

Here rests the corps of MICHAEL BAKER, &c. &c. and ELIZABETH WRIGHT his spouse, who departed this life, &c.

Here lyes THOMAS HALL, &c. and JANE HORN his wife, &c.

Here lyes MARGARET BOTHWICK, spouse to THOMAS ZEMAN, &c.

To the memory of BETHIA MURRAY, spouse to HUGH MOSMAN, &c.

By these examples we see how exact and particular people abroad are, as well as in Scotland, to maintain the true course of inheritance, by inscribng on monuments or grave-stones the SURNAMES of their wives; for the like reasons we should never omit to perpetuate the same here, as thereby inscriptions would certainly be more useful to posterity; for the monuments of the dead would then maintain the pedigrees of the living.

Upon this occasion I cannot help taking notice of a great impropriety which generally prevails in England. How often do we see inscriptions in these forms?

Here lieth the body of MARGARET, wife of THOMAS LONDON,
who died, &c. &c.

Here lieth the body of MARGARET LONDON, wife of THOMAS
LONDON, who died, &c.

No information is hereby conveyed as to the wife's family; and the repetition of the Surname is idle, if her maiden name is to be suppressed: as it is necessary to ascertain as much as possible what family is connected, for instance, with that of THOMAS LONDON, that may be done with no more expence and trouble, after the example of the foreign inscriptions, or those in Scotland:

Here lieth the body of MARGARET HACKNEY, wife of THOMAS
LONDON, who died 10 Aug. 1700.

But as it is of importance to be more particular, I would recommend the methods following:

Here lieth the body of MARGARET, late wife of THOMAS LONDON of this parish, brewer, and daughter of THOMAS HACKNEY of Yarmouth, in the county of Norfolk, master and mariner. She died 10 Aug. 1700, aged 34 years, and left issue one son THOMAS, and one daughter MARGARET.

Here lie the bodies of ROBERT TRUMAN, late of Guildford, in the county of Surrey, Esq; and of ANNE his wife, only daughter and heir of WILLIAM LOVELY of Strensham, in the county of Worcester, Esq;

He died the 15th day of August 1705, aged 45 years.

She died the 20th day of November 1706, aged 50 years, and left issue three sons and three daughters; viz.

ROBERT, JOHN, WILLIAM, SARAH, ANNE, and MARY.

One thing more I must mention before I quit this subject, and that is, I could wish that no initial letters were permitted on grave-stones, as T. L. died: the names ought to be at full length, as THOMAS LONDON, &c. and if the circumstances of the person permit, as nearly similar to the entry in the Register as possible.

To these remarks I shall add, as tending so much to the present discourse, what that eminent lawyer Sir HENRY CHAUNCEY, Knt. observes in the preface to his Antiquities of Hertfordshire, wherein, speaking of his family pedigree introduced in that work, and that he could not obtain such helps as he could have wished, to set forth the genealogies of other gentlemen in like manner as his own, " I would (says he) have given fuller
 " accounts of them, there being now greater use of these than
 " formerly, to make out claims by descent upon expiration
 " of any long terms or estates, such cases often happening,
 " which are difficult to be proved, when Inquisitions POST
 " MORTEM are determined by act of parliament, the brass
 " plates taken away from grave-stones, and registers of christ-
 " nings, marriages, and burials are lost, or rendered so im-
 " perfect, that many times the names and surnames of chil-
 " dren

" dren baptized, or the persons married or buried, with the
 " places of their residence, their titles or additions, cannot be
 " discovered; and there are no other evidences but deeds, that
 " sometimes mention not two generations, seldom more, which
 " may occasion great inconveniences hereafter, except some
 " prudent methods are taken to prevent them, by constant
 " regular entries of descents in the COLLEGE of ARMS, their
 " proper REPOSITORY."

To descant on the vast importance of these measures would
 seem needless, as there are so many considerable estates in the
 kingdom at this time wanting heirs, from a neglect of arms
 and pedigrees being duly regulated, and entered in the HE-
 RAULDS OFFICE; and were it not for the frequent proofs of af-
 finity and consanguinity obtained from the said Office, such
 instances would be very numerous.

The last visitations for the several counties of England were
 made between the years 1660 and 1688; such of the nobility
 and gentry as have not brought down the continuations of
 their pedigrees, by having recourse to deeds, marriage settle-
 ments, wills, parish registers, sepulchral inscriptions, &c. may
 easily join themselves to their old family stock; but if not done
 in this generation, the next may be too late, and the memory
 of families and their connexions by neglect may become irre-
 coverably lost.

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The substance and intent of what hath been hitherto observed may be reduced to the following particulars: it is of importance to every family, not excepting the meanest, to pay some regard to their pedigrees, and consequently every circumstance, whether of a public or private nature, which tends to preserve or elucidate Genealogical History, should be attended to with the most religious care.

I. PAROCHIAL REGISTERS.

Concerning which, but with great submission to superior judges, I would propose, that all old Registers that require it be repaired; and that for every register large wide folio books well bound be provided with good vellum leaves (parchment is improper; unless pounced as customary it will scarce admit the ink, and if pounced, it will subject the parchment and writing to decay); that the leaves be numbered, and an inch margin be left at the top, bottom, and on each side of every folio or page; that all entries be within the margin to prevent the writing being defaced by turning over the book with a wet finger or thumb; and for dispatch and the conveniency of the minister, as well as those who shall have occasion to consult the register, there be a general index at the end of each book with references to the names in the several pages, which will be very useful and save much trouble in searching, especially in large parishes: that registers should not always be kept in

the vestry (or chest in the parish church) unless very dry, or a fire be now-and-then made, but rather that they be kept in some secure, dry place in the parsonage-house, guarded however from fire or other accidents. The minister must on all accounts have a key occasionally to consult them. The entries of marriages, baptisms, and burials should be always made by the gentleman officiating himself; but in case he should become incapable by the infirmities of old age, or otherwise, and cannot write a fair hand himself, a proper person should be engaged to make the entries in a strong legible hand, under the inspection of the said minister or churchwardens: the minister should also be under obligation never to permit the parish register to be lent to any one whomsoever, unless required by a public court of justice; nor suffer any erasures or alterations whatever. If through inadvertency the entry of a baptism should be made among the burials, or vice-versâ, that it be not erased with a knife, but that a line be drawn through the entry with black ink, and a note made in the margin of the mistake, and reference to the folio where the entry is or should have been made.—Many of these remarks will, I presume, appear reasonable at first view; and the avoiding Rasures in registers would very often prevent frauds, and even the suspicion of fraud, when occasionally laid before courts of justice, and make it hereafter abundantly easier to prove a pedigree from parish registers, to the satisfaction of a judge or jury, than it is at present.

II. INSCRIPTIONS, Either on ERECT MONUMENTS, or TOMB-STONES, in Churches or Church-yards.

Concerning Funeral Honours; " Epitaphs (says Camden) have been always most respective, for in them love was shewn to the deceased, and their memory was continued to posterity; friends were comforted, and the reader put in mind of human frailty." And Sir Henry Chauncy, speaking of preserving the inscriptions on monuments and grave-stones, says, " These being memorials of our once-flourishing ancestors, designed to perpetuate their remembrance to future ages, are of no despicable use to Heralds in tracing pedigrees, or Lawyers in making out titles to estates."

If a church is to be repaired or rebuilt, great care should be observed to take copies of every monumental inscription or coat of arms; the same care should also extend to church windows, which often contain painted arms, written labels, &c. Mr. WEEVER, in his preface concerning Funeral Monuments, observes that in other kingdoms the monuments of the dead are preserved, and their inscriptions or epitaphs are registered in the church books: he justly laments the barbarous and inhuman practice (to the shame of his time) of monuments " broken down and almost ruined, their brazen inscriptions erased, torne away, and pilfered; by which deformidable act
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the honourable memory of many vertuous and noble persons deceased is extinguished, and the true understanding of divers families in these realmes (who have descended of those worthy persons aforesaid) is so darkened, as the true course of their inheritance is thereby partly interrupted." Grieving (as he observes) at this insufferable injury, offered as well to the living as the dead, out of respect he bore to venerable antiquity, and the due regard to continue the remembrance of the deceased to future ages, it was that he collected such memorials of the deceased as were then remaining undefaced.

To these observations, which I thought proper to premise, I shall now resume my own: Many grave-stones are often half, and others wholly covered with pews, &c. many also are broken, and by the sinking of graves not only inscriptions are lost, but the beauty of the church defaced; all these and many other evils might be remedied, in case every parish was obliged to have, in like manner as abroad, a monumental book, to be kept with the register, wherein every inscription should be fairly written, under the inspection of the minister officiating; for which purpose a fee should be paid: nor would it be amiss, if every parish had the ichnography of the church on a large scale, with proper references to each person's grave or family vault. This ought especially to be done when any old church is repaired, or pulled down in order to be rebuilt.

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The late Earl of WESTMORLAND, when he rebuilt his church at Meerworth in Kent, from the veneration he had to antiquity and the memory of his noble ancestors, as well as those of the parishioners in general, took all the care imaginable to reinstate the several monuments and grave-stones, with their inscriptions; even the very meanest head-stone in the church-yard was replaced in due form. The curious painted glass of the old church windows (which represented the arms, quarterings, and supporters of his lordship's family, as well as many others of the nobility) was carefully taken down and preserved, and afterwards with the greatest exactness put up in the new church, which is not only very ornamental, but may hereafter be useful to posterity.

In like manner JAMES CLITHEROE of Boston House, in the county of Middlesex, Esq; before the old church of Brentford was pulled down, to preserve as much as possible every memorial of antiquity that remained undefaced in that church, has had the ichnography thereof very curiously taken, with references to every grave and monument, and exact copies of the inscriptions, that thereby the same shall be duly replaced when the church is rebuilt.

By these notable instances of public spirit to preserve the monuments of the dead, it is to be hoped that the living, by their good example, will (when occasion shall require) take the same care as to every other church of the kingdom.

III. IMPRESSIONS of SEALS to Deeds, Wills, &c.

Have been found in genealogical matters to be of signal service. Our books have carefully preserved such wherever they could be procured. Deeds began to be dated in the reign of King Edward I. though not constantly so, says Lord Coke in his Institutes, before the reign of King Edward II.

The use of Seals is very ancient: Sir WILLIAM DUGDALE, in his Antiquities of Warwickshire, observes that King Edward the Confessor, upon his foundation of Westminster Abbey, was the first in England who put his seal to his charter, according to the custom of the Normans, with whom he had been educated. The king only, and some of the nobility, at first used seals, chiefly with their images on horseback thereon, afterwards, as arms became settled and hereditary, the gentlemen of the better sort used them on their seals; and about King Edward III's time seals became common. Before the subscribing names to ancient charters and evidences they were only signed with seals, probably because in those early days very few people could write, and which, as NISBET observes, contributed greatly to the regularity of arms: he tells us it was enacted by several statutes, that every freeholder should have his proper seal of arms, and should either compeer him-

self at the head court of the shire, or send his attorney with the said seal; and those who wanted such seals were to be amerced or fined. Every gentleman used then to send his seal to the clerk of the court in lead, in order to compare with other sealings, for fear of counterfeits; for it was reckoned, says NISBET, no less crime than forgery to counterfeit another man's seal, for which severe punishments were inflicted; and so particularly careful were people of their seals in those days, that in case one was lost, no means were wanting by public proclamation to have it restored, lest any one might use it to the prejudice of another. MACKENZIE observes, that of old the appending of a seal was sufficient in charters without the subscription of the party, and that the custom of sealing without subscription continued in Scotland till the year 1540, when King James V. by an act did ordain that all evidences should be subscribed as well as sealed, &c.

As impressions of seals have been found in genealogical matters to be very useful, as I observed before, I cannot therefore help lamenting the present prevailing custom, I mean the sealing a will, &c. not with the seal of the testator, but of the person who drew it up; and also of affixing the same seal three or four times to a deed, when several parties are concerned: surely the most rational way seems to be, that each person who signs his own name, should also affix his own seal.

IV. WILLS and ADMINISTRATIONS.

That Wills in general (the solemn instruments whereby people manifest their minds as to the disposal of their estates, goods, &c.) are some of the best proofs of consanguinity, will, I apprehend, be readily acknowledged; but these, for want of some particulars, such as the surname of the wife, her father and mother's residence, &c. are not so useful as they might be; I would therefore, that the maternal ancestors of families may hereafter be better known, recommend to every person who makes a will to express himself in the following form:

I WILLIAM SMITH of Honiton, in the county of Devon, clothier, third son of TIMOTHY SMITH, late of the parish of St. Dunstan in the West, London, woollen-draper, deceased, by MARY his wife, daughter of JOHN BROWNE of Cramlington in Northumberland, do make, &c. I leave to ANNE my now wife, daughter of JOHN SAUNDERS of Honiton aforesaid: Item, to my eldest son WILLIAM (by my first wife SARAH, daughter of SAMPSON GREENLAND of Ottery St. Mary, in the said county of Devon): Item, to SARAH my only daughter (by my present wife) wife of SAMUEL HAYMAN of Sidbury, in the said county of Devon, Gent. Item, to my daughter-in-law MARTHA, only daughter of BENJAMIN HEARD of Sidmouth, Gent. and wife to my said son WILLIAM, &c.

As Wills are admitted as evidence in the courts of law, every thing which tends to make them more useful, or to preserve them and procure ready access to them, is of consequence. How many obscure courts are there at present, in

which

which wills are deposited, which are probably unknown even to persons most concerned in them! I hope I shall not be thought too presuming, if I take the liberty to offer a scheme which may remedy this evil: The original wills might be preserved in the manner they now are; but I would propose a GENERAL OFFICE in London, in which should be deposited attested copies of every will and administration throughout the kingdom; what are now dispersed both in the greater and lesser courts, would thereby be collected in one place, and access to consult any particular will would be rendered much easier: at present, indeed, every will deposited in the PREROGATIVE COURT is fairly copied in books for that purpose; but I apprehend this is not done in the provincial courts, and consequently a will destroyed by time, dust, vermin, or other accidents, becomes an irreparable loss.

For a long while the wills, &c. in St. Paul's church lay undigested and neglected; the excellent order to which they will soon be reduced, is owing to the direction of that public-spirited prelate the Right Rev. Dr. RICHARD OSBALDESTON, the present Lord Bishop of London.

There is another article of the greatest consequence to every civil community, and to this kingdom in particular; I mean, to establish in LONDON,

every thing which tends to make them and procure ready access to them, is of consequence. How many obscure courts are there at present in which

V. A GENERAL REGISTER of MARRIAGES
 throughout the Kingdom, with INDEXES,
 Containing the Surnames of both Man and Woman.

Such a register might easily be compiled, if every officiating minister was directed to transmit to this Office, twice at least every year, a list of the marriages in his respective parish, written, it were to be wished, with his own hand, and signed by him; if not, at least to be certified by him, and witnessed by the churchwardens. The clergy, to whom undoubtedly a proper fee is due for consulting the register of their respective parishes, may be indemnified by adding something to the present fee for registering the marriage, reserving still a right to their fee in case it should be found adviseable to consult the original register. And here

I cannot omit declaring how sensible I am of the obliging regard which the clergy in general have always paid to any application I, or any of my brethren, have been obliged to make to them in the course of our office; ever ready to consult their registers, and speedy and exact in their extracts: and lest any one should think himself injured by any thing which has been said in this pamphlet, I hope it will be considered as said from no kind of disrespect, but from a zeal to the public service, and by way of caution for the future.

As a general tranquillity is now happily re-established, it is to be wished that all persons intrusted with the chief management of public offices would take under their consideration the present state of them; and that all manuscripts which in anywise relate or pertain to particular offices should be given or restored to their proper Repositories.

The uses and advantages of general offices in the Metropolis for collecting into one body (properly digested and indexed) papers, &c. which now lie unknown and scattered in various parts of the kingdom, are too obvious to be further insisted upon: the nation will, I hope, soon be sensible of this fact, when the AUGMENTATION OFFICE is completed; a work of the highest consequence and utility, in which Gentlemen of the most distinguished abilities are now constantly employed.

The Records also in the ROLLS Chapel and the TOWER are now, through the indefatigable care of the ingenious Mr. ROOKE, digested in the most methodical manner, and thereby rendered more than ever of public utility.

VI. CASTLES, PALACES, PRIVATE HOUSES, &c.

Often contain on the walls or windows the most ancient marks of family honours, such as arms, crests, supporters, mottos, badges, &c. As these are more immediately the concern

cern of each family, I can only take the liberty to propose the following method to guard against the injuries of time before it be too late, to have attested copies or draughts made of them, which might be preserved in the family, or deposited in the HERALDS OFFICE.

That eminent lawyer WILLIAM BURTON, Esq; in the preface to his Description of Leicestershire, speaking of arms, &c. affirms, " That the antiquity of a church window, for the " proof of a match and issue, hath been delivered in evidence to a jury at an assize, and been accepted;" and so sensible was he that these ancient memorials might be still more useful to posterity, he collected them and the inscriptions of the tombs; because, as he observes, " they may rectify armories and genealogies, and give such testimony and proof as may put an end to many differences."

In confirmation of events similar to the above, I know three families who have acquired estates by virtue of preserving the arms and escutcheons of their ancestors; and of damages lately recovered by a certain parish against a person for the removal of a wall of three hundred years standing, owing to a coat of arms being carved upon one of the stones saved from the ruins, and brought to me to examine; which arms, though much defaced by time, I soon discovered to pertain to a certain alderman of London; in consequence of which his will

was

was found, and the matter therein fully explained. Other instances I could give, but these I think will be sufficient to shew, that however the ignorant or inconsiderate class of the people may condemn or despise a coat of arms, yet it serves many important purposes, and never can lose that veneration which is inviolably due to it from the noble and illustrious.

To see arms or ensigns of honour on seals, plate, coaches, or set forth in churches, public halls, maps, dedications to books, &c. which are universally known to be the right of particular families, usurped, or licentiously taken by persons who never were legally invested with such ensigns, seems repugnant to reason as well as the ancient and present laws of arms, and indeed to the sense of the wisest nations; and if some care is not taken to check these abuses, great inconveniences must hereafter ensue to posterity. And here I cannot help taking notice of people who now bear arms to which they have no manner of right, and which are no where to be found in the HERALDS OFFICE. The usual plea is, that their grants, &c. were destroyed, with other books and papers in the Heralds Office, by the great fire of London anno 1666; I therefore think it proper to acquaint the Public that no one book or paper was lost in the great fire; every record was removed to a room in the palace of WHITEHALL, afterwards to another room in the palace of WESTMINSTER, formerly called the Queen's Court, and public notice was given that the HERALDS OFFICE was

kept there : only one book was lost in the removal, a visitation of Kent ; but this loss is in a great measure supplied by other visitations of Kent still preserved ; one of which was taken but two years before ; and also by several copies of visitations of Kent collected by the ingenious JOHN PHILIPOT, Esq; Somerset Herald, original compiler of the Antiquities of Kent.

Almost all nations have maintained that no person can assume arms without lawful authority ; and whoever presumes to bear them without the king's licence, or having first obtained the Earl Marshal's warrant to the proper officers established by patent under the great seal of Great Britain to grant the same, infringes upon the sovereign, the fountain from whom all honours should spring. The king's children do not bear arms without a licence from the sovereign their royal father directed to the Earl Marshal, &c. neither can a person, though dignified with the title of Baronet, Knight, or Esquire, when created by the royal favour a peer of this realm, or nominated to be a knight companion of either of the honourable orders, have supporters to the arms he has used, unless he can prove a lawful right to them ; and the same with regard to Esquires, to Knights of the Bath, &c. I mention this to shew, that however some from an ill-judged opinion may condemn, or endeavour to discountenance all things of this kind, there is a time when such distinctions must be lawfully settled ; and as nothing can excuse a negligence of this sort, every person

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should

should be cautious of bearing false arms; he should consider these things in due time, that his children may not hereafter be under the necessity of settling what their father might or should have done before. One would think it natural for every one who had creditably advanced himself in fortune to covet something adequate in honour; and it is certain, that he who by his industry, his more extensive and prosperous dealings, or by any other honourable methods, is enabled to be a founder or restorer of gentility, and shall entail a coat of arms upon his family, has a real claim to honour, and stimulates his offspring to exert those laudable principles which have deserved such distinction.

Sundry statutes and ordinances have been made by the commands of former kings of this realm concerning arms, particularly King Henry V. in the fifth year of his reign, on his expedition into France, to support the dignity of these distinctions, by special prohibition forbid by public proclamation the usurping of arms; that no person in that expedition should presume to wear any coat-armour to which he had not a right from his ancestors, or from sufficient deputy empowered to grant the same, under severe penalties, except those who bore arms with him at the battle of Agencourt; thereby rewarding his veteran soldiers with a mark of honour, as Francis Sandford, Esq; Lancaster Herald, observes in his Genealogical History, p. 282, where the words of the record may be seen,

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The king also sent his orders to the sheriffs of the several counties not to permit any to bear arms without licence from him, or proper officers deputed to grant the same. In Queen Elizabeth's reign one *Daukins*, for taking upon him the office of a king of arms, was whipped, pilloried, and had his ears cut off. In the 20th of King Charles II. one *Randal Holmes*, a painter, was prosecuted by Norroy king of arms at Stafford assizes for marshalling the funeral, &c. of Sir RALPH ASHTON, and obtained a verdict, with costs and 20l. damages. Queen Anne, to revive and preserve the ancient honour and esteem due to the nobility and gentry of this kingdom from people of the lower class intruding into their families and usurping their arms, did, for prevention of the same, issue out her command to HENRY Earl of Bindon, then deputy earl marshal of England, to put in execution the statutes and ordinances relating thereto. "In the 13th of King George I. one *Robert Harman*, for assuming the title and office of Herald, was prosecuted by the College of Heralds at the quarter-sessions held at Beccles in Suffolk, and ordered to stand in the pillory in three several towns on public market-days, and afterwards to be imprisoned and fined; which order was accordingly executed." In Scotland, according to an act 12 parliament King Jac. VI. "the moveables and furniture whereon false arms are painted or engraven shall be confiscated, besides the offender to pay 100l. damages; and in case of failure to be incarcerated." It is not long since the *French* published an order inhibiting the assumption

assumption of arms not warranted by the laws of that country. Among other resolutions of the lords spiritual and temporal in *Ireland* (Die Lunæ, 6^o die Februarii 1758) IT was resolved in parliament, that all persons assuming to themselves titles of honour, or bearing ensigns of honour not warranted by law, nor allowed by the known courtesy of that land, upon their carriages, plate, or furniture, were guilty of a high breach of the privileges of that house, and that it would proceed without delay to punish all such persons who should offend in any of the said premises. IT was ordered also, that the king of arms do from time to time make inquiry after all persons who should afterwards offend in any of the said points, and to make regular returns of the names of all such delinquents to the clerk of the parliament. IT was also ordered by the said lords spiritual and temporal then in parliament assembled, THAT the KING of ARMS, attended by his proper officers, do proceed to blot out and deface all ensigns of honour borne by such persons upon their carriages, plate, furniture, &c. According to the Public Ledger (7th Jan. 1763) "the king of Sweden issued an order forbidding all such as are neither Counts, Barons, nor Nobles, to bear the arms of nobility, or open helmets upon their seals, on paying five hundred crowns."

and in 1767 the Peers of this Kingdom issued their orders for ascertaining their Descent.

I shall conclude these observations with the following quotation from MAITLAND's History of London (last edit. vol. ii. p. 862, 863); "The OFFICE of Arms has subsisted in this

" kingdom

*vid. Standing
Orders of the
Peers
2d March
1767
at the end of
the Report.*

" kingdom five hundred years with reputation: these officers
 " had anciently the character of surpassing foreign heralds in
 " knowledge and practice. *Hector Boetius* owns that this su-
 " periority was universally given them; and *Mensfrier*, a French-
 " man, acknowledges, that after the *French*, the *English* are
 " the most knowing; both writers that cannot be suspected
 " of partiality. Nor would it be difficult to enumerate officers
 " of arms, of every degree in the College, who have ex-
 " celled and distinguished themselves in the respective offices.
 " There is not an office of arms in *Europe* where the public
 " ceremonial, the arms and pedigrees of families, and all
 " other matters relating to the science of HERALDRY, are so
 " regularly disposed and so well preserved; and if the descents
 " have not been continued so well since the Revolution as be-
 " fore, by reason of the discontinuance of visitations and fu-
 " neral certificates, it is not the *Heralds* fault; gentlemen
 " may supply that defect themselves if they please, the public
 " office is always open for that purpose.

" The continuing of descents in the office of arms is not
 " only for the honour of families, but of great use and bene-
 " fit with regard to their inheritances. Lord Chief Justice *Coke*
 " observes, that the dealings of the *Kings of Arms* in descents
 " and pedigrees may be a means to quiet many controversies
 " about titles of honour, dignities, and inheritances, and this
 " is confirmed by experience. The *Heralds* books have al-

“ ways been allowed as evidence at the common law, in the
 “ house of lords, and in proceedings according to the eccle-
 “ siastical law; and with regard to precedence, public cere-
 “ monials, and arms, their books are conclusive.

“ As to arms, no person who hath the least knowledge in
 “ our history or laws can be ignorant of the value put upon
 “ them by our ancestors, as being the hereditary marks of
 “ their noblesse: they are the most permanent and lasting ho-
 “ nours, whereby the memory of families is preserved; many
 “ of which, but for them, would be buried in oblivion. Lord
 “ Chief Justice *Coke* speaking of arms asserts, that every gen-
 “ tleman must be *arma gerens*; and that the best trial of a
 “ gentleman in blood is by bearing arms; that they are the
 “ most certain proofs and evidences of nobility and gentry.
 “ And again, *Nobiles sunt, qui arma gentilitia antecessorum pro-*
 “ *ferre possunt*. Every gentleman, therefore, must be distin-
 “ guished by his proper arms, as without arms he cannot be
 “ a gentleman; nevertheless it is but too common to *apocry-*
 “ *phate gentlemen* with false or fictitious arms; which, how-
 “ ever, is not to be wondered at, when we daily observe our
 “ best laws evaded. Every person who thus usurps arms in-
 “ vades the prerogative, and very frequently the property of
 “ another; it is not only dishonourable, but dishonest, and
 “ an indelible mark of a base mind as well as of a mean ex-
 “ traction; at the same time, by this instance of low pride,

“ he publishes his own dishonour and injures his posterity,
 “ making them thereby at least one step lower in rank as gen-
 “ tlemen. But the usurpation of arms is still worse by persons
 “ in high stations: to see men of the first rank in all profes-
 “ sions using false or fictitious arms; to see even those who
 “ ought to enforce the laws of their country acting contrary
 “ to the laws of arms (which are the laws of the land as
 “ much as the common law); to see churches, colleges, halls,
 “ the court, the city, and the camp, displaying false arms, is
 “ an offence to the Public and a dishonour to the nation.”

“ There is nothing more universally acknowledged than
 “ the use of arms; they are the property of gentlemen,
 “ which ought to be preserved to them inviolable: even those
 “ who usurp these ensigns of honour, as gentlemen must
 “ desire, in that respect, to be what they seem; therefore arms
 “ being duly regulated, and with the pedigrees and descents
 “ of the bearers recorded in the Heralds Office, must be de-
 “ sired by every gentleman, would add a lustre even to nobi-
 “ lity, preserve inheritances, be an honour to the kingdom,
 “ and a lasting benefit to posterity.”

I could here enter into a large discourse concerning the public utility of the Heralds Office; and could easily shew how prejudicial a disregard to it may prove; but being myself an Herald, I shall forbear to expatiate on these topics, which
 might

might be construed as arising more from a view to private interest than zeal for the public service. Of what use the valuable materials there preserved are and may be, will I hope fully appear from the *Genealogical Tables of the ENGLISH NOBILITY* that will shortly be published in Numbers.

I cannot finish this rude Essay without intreating the indulgence of the candid reader; I am conscious of its many imperfections; but the constant attendance on the duties of my office, and the many avocations to which I am subject, have prevented me from treating the matter in hand with that precision and regularity I could have wished. The subject is indeed of importance; and I shall be extremely happy, if the *loose Hints* here thrown out should induce some more masterly hand to give them that force and order which the nature of them undoubtedly deserve.



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